The Pittsburgh Gazette.

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DAILY GAZETTE.

THE LATEST NEWS.

Condensed Telegrams from All Quarters.

—The Democratic nominee for Congress from Oregon is G. A. Laden.

—The Governor of California has approved the Local Option Liquor bill.

—The new Constitution of Michigan as revised was adopted by the Legislature.

—Temperance sermons were preached in nearly all the churches in New York city yesterday.

—The Industrial Plow Works of Hapgood & Co., in St. Louis, were burned on Saturday night. Loss, $60,000.

—A fire in Indianapolis on Sunday evening caused the destruction of property valued at between $100,000 and $200,000.

—The head bookkeeper of R. U. McDonald & Co., patent medicine dealers of New York, has defrauded the firm out of $30,000.

—The Michigan Legislature has extended the time for the completion of the Marquette and Mackinaw Railroad till December 31, 1877.

—Dr. Paul Schoeppe was remanded to prison in Baltimore on Saturday, to give reasonable time for a requisition from the Governor of Illinois.

—Rev. Meili, a Catholic priest of Crestline, Ohio, has renounced Catholicism, and declared his intention of uniting with the Presbyterian Church.

—One of the principal hotels in Washington has been notified of a visit by ladies at noon today, to endeavor to suppress the liquor traffic therein.

—Susan McIntyre, a prominent resident of Harrisonville, Michigan, hung himself on Saturday. The cause was derangement of mind on account of sickness.

—Dr. Max F. A. Hoffman, late Secretary of State of Indiana, and for the last three months county physician of Vanderbury county, died on Saturday of smallpox.

—Mrs. Abner June, a highly respected resident of the town of Bedford, near Battle Creek, Mich., was burned to death. Her clothes ignited whilst kindling a fire.

—Judge Dent, brother of Mrs. Grant, died on Sunday morning at his residence in Washington city of a tumor in the stomach. The funeral will take place on Wednesday.

—C. B. Berthuman, a noted Kentucky desperado and a fugitive from justice, was shot and killed in his mountain recess a few days since by a party of officers attempting his arrest.

—A petition signed by 1,000 merchants of New York will be presented to Congress to-day asking that the volume of legal tenders be fixed at $400,000,000, and for the passage of a free banking bill.

—Shortly after noon on Saturday a fire broke out in the Tucker Manufacturing Co.'s shops in the State prison in Charlestown, Mass., which were entirely consumed with their contents. Loss $200,000.

—B. Epler, a banker and agent of European steamships in Cincinnati, was shot, and it is supposed fatally wounded, by some unknown party while on his way to his residence in the suburbs late last Friday night.

—The Supreme Court of the State of California has decided that the tax levy of 1872 and 1873 was unconstitutional. It is thought that this decision will necessitate a change in the entire revenue system of the State.

—The New England Freedmen's Aid Society has voted to wind up its affairs. Since April, 1864, the society has received and expended over $350,000, and has supported seventy teachers among the colored people of the South.

—A suit has been entered in the Circuit Court at Burlington, Iowa, by John A. Swan, a stockholder of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Minnesota Railroad, against that company, asking an injunction against the transfer of certain stock of the company alleged to be fraudulent.

—About three hundred and twenty-five feet of the temporary wooden bridge at College Rapids, near Waterville, Me., where the Maine Central Railroad is putting in a new iron bridge, was swept away by ice last Friday, carrying down one span of the iron bridge with it to the bottom of the river.

—The Treasury Department has decided to acquiesce in the decision of the United States Circuit Court, at New York, that the wool act of March 2, 1867, was not signed by the President, and therefore not a law until March 4. This will involve the refund of duties on wool and woolen goods imported on March 2 and 3, 1867.

—Rev. George A. Hall, General Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association, and Mrs. Stickney, President of the Womans' Christian Association, call on the people of Washington City to observe this week as a week of special prayer for the blessing of God upon all legitimate efforts for the suppression of intemperance.

—The latest advices regarding the fight at Monega Springs, Mo., are that Allen, the Chicago detective, died on Saturday morning at Rosco, and that the St. Louis detective who escaped was not named Wright, but Duckworth, who resigned from the detective force of St. Louis some weeks ago, but who was believed to have been in Pinkerton's service.

—Two sons of the Siamese Twins have arrived at Philadelphia to take home the remains of their parents. They deny that the family intended to exhibit the remains, and say they are to be at once decently interred. The sons have obtained from the physicians a statement denying that the bodies were given them for the autopsy as the result of a pecuniary arrangement.

—The receipts from internal revenue have diminished within the past two weeks, especially in the districts in Ohio and Indiana, which is attributed to the woman's crusade now in progress. Another cause is the uncertainty throughout the country as to what action Congress will take in regard to the finances and taxation, the effect of which is that trade is carried on upon a limited scale.

—The directors of the North Wisconsin Railroad have decided to accept the St. Croix land grant recently conferred on that company by the Wisconsin Legislature. They have assurances of all the capital necessary to build the road from Hudson to Bayfield, and as soon as a few minor details between the stockholders are arranged, the security demanded by the State will be deposited and work commenced.

—At Chicago, a special committee, consisting of the President of the Board of Police and Drs. Hahn and Schloetzer, of the Board of Health, have prepared an ordinance providing for licensing houses of prostitution in that city, and will submit the same to the Common Council for consideration at an early day. A strong pressure against the adoption of such an ordinance will be brought to bear upon the Council.

—Three of the Congregational Churches of Chicago have taken action relative to the invitation of Drs. Storrs and Buddington, for a Congregational Council in New York, to investigate certain charges against Plymouth Church. The First Church of that city has accepted the invitation and appointed Dr. Wm. Patten to attend, while the Union Church and Plymouth Church have declined. These claim that the Council is improperly called and is exparte.

—Frederick Douglass has been elected President of the Freedmen's Savings Bank, which has branches in nearly all Southern States. Dr. C. B. Paris, another colored man, has been chosen Vice President. Forty out of seventy clerks employed are colored. The new Board of Management has stated to the House Committee on Banking and Currency that it is their desire to make the bank an institution exclusively for colored people, and one which they would regard as their own.

—President Grant, in conversation on Saturday with a leading Western Republican Senator, said the statement in a Washington special dispatch to a New York paper, published on Saturday morning, that any legislation tending to inflation must run the gauntlet of his veto, was wholly without foundation, that he had conversed with no one on that subject at all, and that if he were himself a member of Congress he should regard an intimation of a veto in advance of legislation as an unbecoming threat by the Executive, and should resent it.

—A Jackson (Miss.) dispatch says the funding bill has passed the Legislature. It provides that when warrants of fifty dollars or a multiple thereof are presented, the Treasurer shall take up, cancel, and issue a bond or bonds bearing the date of January or July preceding the issuance, and bearing eight per cent. interest, payable semi-annually in currency. Six series of bonds of $250,000 each are to be issued, and a special tax of one mill on the dollar will be levied each year until and including 1881, and an additional tax of two mills on the dollar is to be levied in 1876 and subsequent years up to and including 1881, or until the interest and principal are paid.

FOREIGN.

—A Catholic mob, on the night of March 7th, attacked a Protestant chapel in Puebla, Mexico, smashed the windows and furniture, destroyed Bibles and stoned the pastor, Rev. Antonio Corral.

—The wife of Don Carlos has been delivered of a daughter.

—Senor Villama, Intendente of Havana, has resigned. Senor Manos is his successor.

—French officers have arrested the Cure of Santa Cruz on the frontier, and brought him to Bayonne.

—The appointment of Baron Schwartz Penborn to be Austrian Minister at Washington is gazetted.

—The *Diario* and *Voz de Cuba* deny that Captain General Jovellar has forwarded his resignation to Spain.

—The *Voz de Cuba*, of Havana, has information of the killing of the insurgent Colonel Beltzara Palita and sixteen of his men by Spanish troops.

—The London *Post* says it is probable that Gen. Wolsley will be rewarded with the rank of Major General and a pension of £7,500 per annum for two lives.

—A dispatch from Spain to the London *Hour* reports that an ammunition wagon lately exploded in Marshal Serrano's camp, and fifty men were killed and wounded.

—A dispatch dated Santander, Sunday, says the first movement of Government troops for the relief of Bilboa, by way of the Bilboa river, was a failure. It was found impossible to effect a landing, and the expedition returned to Santona.

—A decree has been promulgated establishing a National bank in Madrid, granting it a monopoly of the issue of bank notes, and compulsorily incorporating with it all other banks in Spain. In return the new bank agrees to advance to the Government 125,000,000 pesetas.

—The Generals of the army at present in Berlin waited in a body on Emperor William on Sunday, and congratulated him on reaching his seventy-seventh birthday. The Emperor, in the course of his reply, referred to the crisis which was hanging over the army, and declared that he was determined to maintain its strength, and thereby insure the peace of Europe.

FRAUDULENT CLAIMS UPON THE UNITED STATES.

The Way our National Treasury is Drained—The mess of Red Tape. It Protects the Treasury Against Frauds—Claim Agents—Their Tricks—The Southern and Other Claims Commissions.

[*From Our Regular Correspondent.*]

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1874.

Frauds Upon the Government.

President Grant did his duty to the nation's taxpayers when in his last annual message he invited the careful attention of Congress to the subject of claims against the Government, and the facilities afforded by existing laws for their prosecution, saying that demands for many millions are before each department, of State, Treasury and War, in addition to those before Congress, the Court of Claims and

The Southern Claims Commission;

that these demands, mostly growing out of the rebellion, are intended to indemnify persons on "both sides" for their losses during the war, and that there are projects on foot to induce Congress to revive old ones by repealing statutes which now debars them. But evidently the President had too much confidence in the honor or vigilance of Congress when he said: "I presume these schemes, if proposed, will be received with little favor by Congress." At least it is evident to those who have observed with what facility one scheme on this subject already passed the House, that for the appointment of a new

Outside Claims Commission,

into whose hands everything should be placed for adjudication, whether already decided or not in the proper governmental departments. For it is evident that such outside claims commissioners all gotten up merely to facilitate the collection of unjust and fraudulent claims; and though the President recommends "that legislation be directed as far as practicable to the defeat of unfounded and unjust demands upon the Government," and truly adds that "probably the largest saving to the National Treasury can be secured by timely legislation on that subject, of any of the economic measures that will be proposed," yet efforts at an entirely contrary report of legislation are plainly seen in Congress. A bill was but recently introduced into the Senate, by Senator West, which provides that the

Court of Claims

shall have sole jurisdiction of all claims against the United States, brought by loyal persons, for property taken or destroyed by the army or the navy of the United States for its use. These are called legal claims, but it provides for all persons who have been restored to rights after participation in the rebellion, and who resumed their allegiance before the close of the war, shall be entitled to the same provisions of the bill. To see what a step backwards such legislation would be; how, instead of being directed to the defeat of unjust and unfounded demands on the Government, as the President recomends, to see how it would open the door to fraud, deceit, tricks and

All Sorts of Artifice

to impose on the Government, and yet its many Congressmen need only to visit the rooms of the Third Auditor of the Treasury and look at the course that all such claims have to pursue before being settled—all the checks which fraudulent claim has to meet at every step—and at the almost perfect system for preserving justice between the Government and its subjects, which has been attained here where claims have been adjusted for more than a

Half Century.

The cry of "red tape" may be raised, but if slow, the process is sure, and a just claim will go through as regularly as clock-work, and an unjust one will be discovered. And without the aid of this departmental machinery no Court of Claims or Claims Commission can determine a case justly to the taxpayers. There is no mystery in the departmental process of determining the character of any claim, and any claimant or his attorney can see just its condition at any stage of it and whether it will be granted or not, and why not if anything is wrong.

If Unjust,

a claim cannot go through by bribery or otherwise, as the hundreds of parties whose hands it would have to pass would all have to be bribed, requiring a larger sum than any amount claimed. Such might not be the case with a few Judges or Claims Commissioners.

The process of getting a claim on the Government settled is about this: A party having animals, grain or the like taken during the war by the army of the United States, either brings or remits to his agent the receipt or other voucher of the arm officer who took it, attaching thereto the claimant's name, residence, oath of loyalty, that his property was taken by the officer signing the receipt for the

Use of the Government,

and that he has not been paid, sealed by the officer before whom said oath is taken, all of which is filed in the office of the Quartermaster General. This officer's agents, one of whom he has everywhere, inquires into the claimants loyalty and any peculiarity in the case may have, sends the testimony to his chief, who attaches it to the original papers, and remits all to the

Third Auditor

of the Treasury, first for record, then to pass through three divisions of that Department, the first examining the testimony accompanying the claim, the second whether the property taken has been accounted for by the officer taking it, whether it has been previously paid for, and also whether the officer's name is genuine or a forged signature, making a note upon the abstract of accountability on file with the officer's Property Return, that a claim for the property is pending. If found just in this second division, an endorsement of all the findings is made on the papers; they are re-sent to the 1st division, where a statement is made of its just character, when it goes to a 2d division for registry and remitted to the 2d Comptroller. It here goes through a

Similar Process

of examination, but entirely independent of the first one. If again finds its way back to the Third Auditor, who sends the papers to the Secretary of War for requisition. Even here a requisition is sometimes caught and tied up by some discovery. If not, it goes back to the Second Controller for signature and record; again to the Third Auditor for the same; thence to the warrant division of the Secretary of the Treasury; a warrant thence issues to be signed by the Secretary of the Treasury, First Comptroller and Register, by each of whom it is separately recorded. Lastly, it goes to

Treasurer Spinner,

Who issues a draft for the claims allowed on such Assistant Treasurer as is located nearest the claimant.

This promise may look like a tedious one, but with any other,

Depraved Men

would soon bankrupt the country. That by this process, where all the records are necessarily kept, and with the able legal brains and detective experts the Government employs to run this and other documentary machinery, frauds are readily detected, is evidenced by the cards of black balled rascally claims carefully stowed away in the immense pigeon holes of the grand Treasury building. With fifty courts of claims, a similar process of search for the facts must take place as now, with the additional expense of the courts, or the country must submit to constant fraud.

Patent Office Employes.

On Saturday, March 7th, Hon. Fernando Wood, of New York, delivered a speech in the House, in which he charged extravagance, and among other statements gave the number of persons employed by the Patent Office Department, in Washington and elsewhere, as 60,225. An examination of the official register shows that this number is 2,000 larger by only about 15, 000. Again Mr. Wood says that there were employed in the Navy Department 8,241 persons here and elsewhere; and here again there is a slight error as to the actual count, the Department record showing only 132 names. This of course does not include the navy proper, and neither did the statement of Mr. Wood claim to include this. Here it will be seen that the number is *only* $6,109 too large.

There are other instances in the speech in which the "great reformer" has fallen into error. His figures are being already largely used in the opposition journals to prove extravagance in the administration of the Government. DIAMOND.

SECOND EDITION.

Four O'Clock.

THE CAPITAL.

A Compromise Financial Measure.

District of Columbia Investigation.

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1874.

District of Columbia Investigation.

At a meeting of the District of Columbia Investigating Committee this morning the counsel for the memorialists offered to put in evidence a number of letters and other manuscript, showing the experience of other cities with regard to patent pavements. The counsel for the District authorities objected to the acceptance of such unsworn statements, and the committee adjourned till one o'clock to examine the papers and consider the question of their admissability.

After the recess, James M. Latta, of the firm of Kilbourne & Latta, was examined, and in answer to questions put by the memorialists' counsel, stated that Jay Cooke & Co., in 1871, advanced to his firm, for Hallet Kilbourne, trustee, $25,000, and that this amount was expended for said trustee in the purchase of property situated in the northwestern part of Washington city. The question was then asked whether witness had any means of refreshing his memory as to the exact description of this property, Judge Black, as counsel for Latta and others, and, as he added, in the name of the American people, protested against all such inquiries into the purely private affairs of citizens.

The committee overruled the objection on the ground that the memorialists' counsel had promised to connect sought for evidence with specific charges already made.

House of Representatives Proceedings.

After the reading of the journal, bills reported from the Committee of the Whole came up for action, the first in order being a bill appropriating $250,000 for a bridge over the eastern branch of the Potomac, the enacting clause of which bill the committee had stricken out.

After discussion a vote was taken on concurring in the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole to strike out the enacting clause, and it was concurred in—yeas 121, nays 84. So the bill was rejected.

The House then took up the bill appropriating $97,000 to pay the school teachers of the District, which was reported yesterday from the Committee of the Whole, with an amendment offered by Mr. Merriam, requiring the amount to be collected by a tax on personal estate and on banks and other corporations.

At the close of the discussion Mr. Randall moved to lay the bill on the table. Negatived—yeas 91, nays 116.

A vote was then taken on the amendment. Agreed to—112 to 82, and the bill was passed.

The House then took up the Georgia contested election case. After some debate, and without coming to a vote, the House adjourned.

A Compromise Financial Measure.

The Senate Committee on Finances held a special meeting to day, at which a compromise financial measure was agreed upon, to be reported to the Senate next Monday. The bill will fix the amount of greenback circulation at three hundred and eighty-two million dollars, thus legalizing the reissue of that portion of the forty-four million legal tender reserve which is now outstanding, and making it a part of the permanent circulation. The amount that has been reissued, and which is now outstanding, is something over twenty-six million dollars. The bill will also authorize free banking on the national banking system, but will contain a requirement that legal tender notes shall be withdrawn from circulation proportionately as new national bank notes are issued. This latter proposition is regarded as a measure of contraction, but the preceding authorization for keeping in circulation twenty-six million legal tenders that have been reissued from the reserve is considered a substantial victory for the advocates of an inflated volume of currency, who, it is understood, will claim in the Senate that the principle having been thus admitted as regards a portion of forty-four million reserve, the whole should be accordingly placed in circulation.

The Hurtt Court Martial.

The records of the Hurtt Court Martial case called for by the House are in the War Department. The order dismissing Captain Hurtt was issued on June 17th, 1864. The Secretary of War was directed a few days ago to send copies of the entire proceedings to the House. It will take one clerk two months to copy the papers. No document or valuable papers have been abstracted from the War Department records.

The Sykes-Spencer Contest.

The special Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, this afternoon, in the Sykes-Spencer contest for the seat in the Senate from Alabama, voted to report next Monday that Spencer is entitled to the seat.

CRIME.

A Whole Family Butchered in Illinois.

BELLEVILLE, Ill., March 21.—Yesterday evening the citizens of Centreville, in this county, learned that a horrible murder had been committed a few miles south of that town on a family named Steizenriede. The fact was discovered by a neighbor who went to the house to procure vegetables. A report having been made to the authorities in Centreville, an investigation was made. The family, consisting of Steizenriede, Senior, seventy-five years old, Steizenriede, Junior, twenty-five years old, his wife and two children, respectively three years and eight months old, were found dead. The murder was evidently committed on Thursday night. The body of the young man was found two steps from the sleeping room, with his throat cut and skull pilt with an axe, and the hands cut with a knife, showing that he made a desperate struggle. The wife was killed in bed while asleep, with an infant in her arms. Her skull was mashed and the throat cut. The childrens' skulls were crushed. The old gentleman slept in an adjoining room. He appears to have been aroused by the conflict, and to have been putting on a jacket, when the murderer killed him. He was one of the oldest German settlers, respected by the whole community. The county court offers a reward of $1,000 for the discovery, arrest and conviction of the murderers. The motive is believed to be a family feud, and a brother-in-law, of Mr. Steizenriede, Jr., is strongly suspected, as he owed the family money, and hard feelings existed between them. The coroner's jury had not brought in a verdict up to a late hour this evening.

ST. LOUIS, March 21.—Additional but still meagre information from the scene of the Centreville butchery has been received. At the inquest this afternoon, held by Coroner Ryan, of East St. Louis, several witnesses were examined, and facts were elicited which lead to the belief that Frederick Boeltz, the husband of a sister of Mrs. Steizenriede, committed the horrible deed. He was present, but refused to testify until forced to, and then his answers and general conduct were such as to excite the strongest suspicion of his guilt. He acknowledged that he had been on bad terms with the murdered family for some months, entertained feelings of enmity towards them, and was in old man Steizenriede's debt several hundred dollars. These and other facts brought out, together with another fact, that the house was not ransacked and pillaged as previously stated, and that the old man Steizenriede's money was found, establish beyond doubt that the murder was not committed for plunder, and tend more strongly to fasten suspicion upon Boeltz.

Cold-Blooded Murder in Arkansas.

LITTLE ROCK, March 21.—A special telegram to the *Gazette* from Forest City states that Hon. John W. Fox, Judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, was shot with a double-barreled shot gun this morning, about eight o'clock, by J. R. P. Aldridge, a lawyer, and died from the effects of the wounds at one o'clock P. M. The dispatch says Judge Fox was on his way to the post-office from the hotel, and had not gone more than thirty paces when Mr. Aldridge stepped out from R. G. Dyas' drug store, and said: "Now Judge Fox," at the same time firing on him. The first shot took effect in his stomach. He sank on the ground, exclaiming "Oh, Lord, I am a dead man," and after he had fallen, Aldridge, to make sure of his work, emptied the other barrel into him, it taking effect in his bowels. He was taken back to the hotel, when, upon examination, it was found that his wounds were fatal. Aldridge then went and delivered himself up to the Sheriff. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the above facts.

NEW ORLEANS.

Decision in the Louisiana Bond Case.

NEW ORLEANS, March 21.—The suits brought in the United States Circuit Court before Judge W. B. Woods, by J. L. McCauley of New York and Stern Brothers of England, holders of Louisiana bonds, against Auditor Clinton and other State officers to compel the collection of State taxes to pay the interest on the face of their bonds, and to enjoin the enforcement of the funding laws, was decided to-day. Judge Wood, in an elaborate written opinion, held, first, that no mandatory injunction could issue to compel State officers to do an affirmative act until a final decree, that an injunction to compel the levy of taxes was a mandatory injunction; second, the Circuit Court could not issue an injunction in equity, because a mandamus is the proper legal remedy, and although the court could not issue a mandamus until a final decree, that was no reason for interference in equity by injunction; third, that though the court might enjoin a State officer from doing injury to a third person under an unconstitutional State law, as a suit against a State officer in reference to a contract of the State, which could not be entertained, or a suit against nominal parties without interest, and should be dismissed. The restraining order was, therefore, dismissed, and the injunction prayed for refused with costs. The Judge intimated that the cases were of such importance that they might properly be taken at once to the Supreme Court of the United States.

NEW YORK.

Plymouth Church Troubles.

Laborers' Strike on the Erie Railway Docks.

NEW YORK, March 21, 1874.

The Plymouth Church Trouble.

After the prayer meeting in Plymouth Church, last evening, letters from Dr. Storrs' and Dr. Buddington's churches were read, inviting Plymouth church to send Mr. Beecher and a committee to a Congregational council, but intimating that they would have no voice in the proceedings, except in the contradiction of misstatements and in furnishing information that might be asked for. Plymouth church declined the invitation, and resolved that the calling of this exparte council to consider the affairs of the church, which has not declined a mutual council, is the consummation of a course of proceedings which is irregular and unwarrantable. We have felt bound to protest from the beginning that we recognize in the statement and invitation a persistent attempt to put this church under accusation and on trial. Plymouth church will meet on Wednesday night next to take any action made requisite by the council the night before.

Labor Strikes.

The Erie Railway Company endeavored today to supply the places of the strikers at the freight depots by employing Italians and Germans, but only with partial success. A gang of one hundred and fifty of the former were marched early in the morning to pier 51, and left standing on the sidewalk. While arrangements were making to put them to work at the dock some of the strikers came along and the Italians scattered in all directions. Detachments of police were sent for, and under their protection two hundred Germans, who soon afterwards arrived, went to work. The strikers hang about the Company's docks in force, saying "twenty cents an hour or no work." The movement of freight is at a stand-still there. The freight which accumulated at the New York dock has been overhauled and the perishable put forward by way of Piermont.

Over one thousand laborers employed on the new railroad tunnel at Bergen Hill struck to-day for an advance from one dollar and a half to one dollar and seventy-five cents a day.

PRAYER CRUSADE.

Dr. Holland's Views on the Movement.

NEW YORK, March 21.—Dr. J. G. Holland has published a reply to the recent circular of Archbishop Purcell on the present temperance movement among the women. He says: What in God's dear name was there left them to do but just what they are doing, and what do you condemn? The whole business has been left to God and the women, and the latter are praying in churches and in the street, and pushing on their divine and peaceful crusade. Because the men of America have failed to do their duty, shall a Christian man, in high station or low, lift his voice against them? The Scripture quotations of the Archbishop are answered by other quotations, and with the remark that when account is taken of the circumstances under which each separate passage was written, it was easy to sustain almost any proposition by it. In the concluding paragraph of the reply, Dr. Holland says to the Archbishop: "I tremble to think of the stumbling block which you, in your circular, have placed before the tempted and deceived. There is not a whisky mill in the Union which does not stand firmer on its foundation in consequence of it. There is not a whisky seller in the country who does not feel improve of it, and feel easier in his business because of it. There is no clergyman who indulges in wine to the destruction of his influence as a temperance man, who does not see it in his justification. There is no young man just beginning the course of dissipation who does not find his downward steps the easier for it. All those who respect and revere the temperance practices of your life are grieved by it. You have made a mistake which you can hardly rectify in a life time. You have given strength to the forces organized against the national purity and morality."

The Crusade in Williamsport.

WILLIAMSPORT, PA., March 21.—The crusaders were out in force to-day, and held services in front of the Court House. Nearly all of the saloons were closed and guarded. There was a marked decline in the liquor traffic.

Mansfield, Pa.

MANSFIELD, PA., March 21, 1874.

Another meeting in the interest of the temperance crusade was held in the M. E. Church of this place, on Friday evening, it being an adjourned meeting from Thursday.

Rev. Wotring, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, being called to the chair, the work of the meeting was begun by Rev. Thompson offering a fervent prayer for the success of the movement in which the hearts and hands of so many friends of temperance were engaged.

The hymn beginning "How sweet the name of Jesus sounds" was then sung. After which the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Dr. Presley being present, he was requested to address the meeting, and did so, stating that he had come there on purpose to commit himself on the question of the woman's crusade; that it was the duty of every man to place himself on the record, either for or against it, and he wished that the fence between the parties in this movement was sharper than a razor, that none might be able to stay on it. He acknowledged that when he first read of the movement to be carried on by women he was shocked at the idea, from the opinion he had formed of the delicate feelings and the modesty which forms the characteristic true of the true lady, knowing that in this work, if prosecuted by the women, they would be exposed to many hardships, but that after having consulted the question by the light of the Word of God only, he had come to the conclusion that it was *right* for the women to work in the cause in the public if they felt like it. He said many women were now employed in public services as teacher, &c., and the prejudice of man was not against them there because the price paid them for services was about one-third that was paid to men, hence no prejudice as the pocket was spared. The great moral influence which women exercise on society at large is one of the best reasons why they should engage in this movement, and while noting the great success attending the movement in Ohio, was pleased to note the fact that the women there had hardly met with a single insult, and while considering the class of men with whom they must necessarily come in contact, it clearly showed their influence on society. He said the argument of the liquor mens', that they were not afraid of this movement; that they were sure the Legislature could be induced to pass laws confiscating so many millions of dollars worth of property; that they had "vested rights." He thought that the difficulty of "vested rights" could be obviated by withdrawing the trade from the retail dealers, which would compel the retail dealer to withdraw from the wholesale dealer, and he from the distiller, and the distiller would have to quit distilling, and thus the object of the movement would be accomplished. Therefore he would advise the women to persevere in this movement, and he would say God speed them. [Applause.]

After the Doctor had concluded, the meeting was addressed by Revs. Ormond, Thompson and Wotring and others, who in pleasing remarks and good advice gave great encouragement to the cause in our town, and doubtless the cause of temperance will not be permitted to suffer here for want of support and action on the part of its friends.

A vote was then taken by the ladies, expressing their willingness to engage personally in the movement, and next Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock, in the Presbyterian church, was fixed as the time and place at which the ladies agreed to meet and organize, and the meeting adjourned to meet Tuesday evening at seven o'clock at the same place.

WEATHER REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., 1 A. M., March 23, 1874.

Probabilities for To-day.

For the Middle States, rising barometer, increasing cloudiness, northwesterly winds, temperature below freezing, with occasional snow and rain in the extreme northern portion.

For New England, westerly winds, freezing temperature, cloudy weather and snow.

For the Northwest and lake region, and thence to Missouri and the Ohio valley, northwesterly winds, generally freezing temperature, and excepting snow on Lake Ontario, clear and clearing weather.

For the Southern States, northwesterly and northeasterly winds, falling temperature, cloudy weather and rain in the Gulf States.

The rivers will probably rise at Nashville, Cincinnati and Louisville, and the Ohio fall at Pittsburgh.

THE RIVERS.

(Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.)

OIL CITY, PA., March 22, 1874.

River 5 feet 6 inches, and falling. Weather clear and cold.

BROWNSVILLE, PA., March 22, 1873.

River 6 feet and about stationary. Clear and cool. G.

CINCINNATI, March 22.—River twenty-one feet, and rising slowly. Arrived—Pat Rogers, Memphis; C. B. Church and John Kilgour, New Orleans.

ST. LOUIS, March 22.—Arrived—Pat. Cleburn, Evansville. Departed—Belle Memphis, Memphis, 11 P. M.; Glasgow and Rover, St. Louis, 2 A. M.; Dean, Cincinnati; J. H. Rigley, New Orleans, 1 P. M.; Julia, St. Louis, 2; Baum, Memphis, 2; Helena, Vicksburg, 5; Cleburn, Evansville, 7. River fallen one inch. Cloudy; mercury 56.

EVANSVILLE, March 22.—Partly clear; mercury 40 to 54. River risen six inches. Down—Exporter, 8 P. M.; Bermuda, 10; Morning Star, 2 P. M.; Peytona and barges, 6. Up—Idlewild, 7 P. M.; Governor Allen and John A. Woods, 9; Thomas W. Means, 7 A. M.; J. D. Parker, 5 P. M. Business dull.

MEMPHIS, March 22.—Cloudy and warm. River falling slowly. Arrived—Minneola, Cincinnati. Departed—Towboats Fred. Wilson, Smoky City and Great Republic, New Orleans.

FOREIGN.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Flood in the Thames.

LONDON, March 21.—The extraordinary rise in the Thames yesterday caused great damage. In Lambeth and Rotherhithe sewers burst and the floors of many houses were forced up, drowning several children and horses. At Wapping the lower stories of the houses were filled with water and business on the wharves was suspended. Numerous families were compelled to abandon their houses. At Woolwich the fires in the gun factories were extinguished, and the store sheds were flooded. Embankments have been erected to prevent a repetition of the inundation.

The Imprisoned Fenians.

Disraeli to-day refused to receive a deputation which came to ask the release of Fenians.

Ovation to Gen. Wolsley.

General Wolsley arrived this afternoon. His reception at Waterloo station was a perfect ovation. An immense crowd of people had assembled.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

The House of Commons to-day passed a bill appropriating four million dollars for the expenses of the Ashantee expedition.

Mr. Anderson gave notice that on Monday next he would ask the Government whether it was willing to co-operate with the United States in fixing sailing tracks for vessels crossing the Atlantic.

THE INDIANS.

Affairs at the Agencies—Difficulties Apprehended.

CHEYENNE, WY., March 22.—A special to the Cheyenne *Leader*, from its correspondent at Red Cloud Agency, says the situation is unchanged. Five companies of troops are stationed there and five at Spotted Tail. The Peace Commissioners have had a talk with the Indians, but nothing was accomplished. The issue of beef has been ordered suspended till the Indians come and be mustered. It is thought that the number of lodges for which beef has been issued heretofore is about two thousand in excess of the true number. There is much opposition on the part of the Indians to being counted. Red Dog and Billy Bull are now the only Indians registered. Sitting Bull harangues his people and urges them not to register, but get their guns ready, for they may need them. No decision has been made for the Indians who committed murders, and it the Indians who committed murders, and it the Indians who committed murders, and it

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MONDAY, MARCH 23, 1874.

GOLD closed in New York Saturday at 111¾.

SENATOR RUTAN'S bill for the selection of a system of uniform text books for all the schools in the State, is an excellent measure. It provides for a State board of examination, and the purchase of State copyrights.

THE COMPULSORY EDUCATION BILL, now before our Legislature, is, we are gratified to say, an improvement on any that we have yet seen, in that it is milder than others. We do not particularly enjoy anything of the kind, but that proposed is not specially objectionable.

PROVIDENCE has done well for our Street Commissioners, within a few days, by giving us settled weather. The mud has been dried in the streets, and is now in good condition for removal. We are quite confident that those charged with the duty of keeping the streets in a cleanly condition have been merely waiting for such an opportunity as they now enjoy. If the surplus dirt, garbage, and other material is not gathered up to-day, we will be greatly disappointed. We have a vigilant body of Commissioners, ever ready to perform their duty. Look out for the carts and workmen to-day.

THE war being made by ten railroads against the State tax on tonnage, even if we accept as correct the plea on which it is urged, is entirely wrong in principle, so far as it may relate to last year's business. Exemption is claimed on the plea that the first section of the ninth article of the new Constitution makes the taxes heretofore collected exempt. But it must be admitted that the taxes are collectable up to the time when the new fundamental law went into effect. The Legislature is very wisely meeting the pending difficulty by enacting a law that places the tax where it is indisputably collectable.

WE COMMEND the enthusiasm of the *Dispatch* in favor of reform, at Harrisburg, but the data on which it relies in its argument is altogether wrong. If it refers to the present session, it is erroneous, in that it credits the House with two hundred members, and the Senate with fifty members, whereas the House has, for this session, but half the number mentioned. If it refers to the next session, it is not clear that the Legislature will accept so many minor officials as it is credited with. Thus the data, at best, is extremely uncertain. This aside, and we join with our cotemporary in urging that the expenses of the Legislature should be [illegible] limit.

THE MASTER CAR BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION, made up of those interested in the construction of railway cars, whether in the employ of railroad companies, or representing private firms, meets in Cincinnati in the early part of June. The meetings are held annually, and are occasions of great interest. This Association controls many important items of size, shape and improvement that enter into the construction of railway passenger and freight cars. Several officers of the Association are Pittsburghers, and this city, owing to its varied manufacture of articles that enter into the construction of cars, is probably more interested in the Association than is any other city in the Union.

JUST why Fitz John Porter's interests should be taken in charge by the Pennsylvania Legislature is more than we can fathom. Our members, for some reason or other, are intensely anxious that he should have a new trial. When General McClellan was temporarily suspended by General Pope, in the Summer of 1862, the disastrous second battle of Bull Run occurred, and it was charged that Porter's opposition to the suspension of McClellan caused Porter to withhold from Pope prompt and full support in that battle. Porter was court-martialed and dismissed from the army in 1863, there being great diversity of public opinion as to the justice of the punishment. Ever since there has been an agitation to have the case reopened. That it will be done we do not doubt, as time usually serves to soften feeling, and a strong sympathy is being artfully engendered in Porter's behalf. We have always believed him to be rightly condemned.

THE Penitentiary removal question is a little mixed at Harrisburg. The committee appointed on the subject favoring removal, and the appointment of the committee indicates that the House also favors the plan. But those who oppose removal are clamorous for an appropriation of $15,000 for a new work house. Admit their argument,—that it will take five years to build a new Penitentiary, and that the work house will cost only $15,000, and it is palpable that even as a temporary measure, the new work house will pay. But we are yet to be convinced that $15,000 will be sufficient to erect, and furnish machinery for a new work house. Nor will it take five years to provide a new Penitentiary, if removal is positively determined upon. The truth is, this $15,000 argument is all in the interest of retaining the building where it is. We assure our members that the people of this city very earnestly desire the removal of the Penitentiary, and we trust the Legislature will, during its present session, provide for this being done.

THE PRESENT is, to a very large extent, Conference time among the ministers of the M. E. Church. The Pittsburgh Conference is in session at Blairsville, presided over by Bishop Foster; the Central Pennsylvania Conference is in session at Altoona, in charge of Bishop Scott; the Philadelphia Conference is in progress at Easton, Bishop Wiley presiding; the New Jersey Conference is holding its session at Camden, in charge of Bishop Ames, and other Conferences are in progress at different points. Those Conferences which cover the New England States, a portion of New York, a portion of this State, and westward as far as Chicago, and southward as far as Virginia, hold their sessions in the Spring. In the West and Northwest, are several that hold Spring sessions. The remainder are held in the early Autumn. There are between seventy and eighty of these Conferences in this country, one in India, one in Germany, and one in China. In the other foreign countries occupied, missions are maintained, presided over by a local superintendent, but subject to the supervision of the Bishops. It is understood that the several churches of that denomination in this city will change pastors this Spring, with the exception of two or three. The session will probably adjourn to-morrow or Wednesday.

THE ASSESSMENTS.

There is no need of discussion over the city and county assessments,—and when properly understood, they are not objected to, except in a few instances. In the long list of persons who have appeared before the Commissioners or Revisors, it will be noticed that many on having the subject properly explained to them, promptly expressed their satisfaction with the assessments. The object of the new assessment is, not to increase the amount of taxes to be collected, or to put a fictitious valuation on property, but to establish a system by which assessments may be made more uniform, and hence equitable. The amount of taxes is governed by the financial necessities of the city—and whether the old system of assessments were continued or not, would be precisely the same. But under the old system there were outrageous inequalities, and the plan of estimating property at its true value was established as the surest method of correcting the evil. But in order that the tax may be no more, the millage has been reduced. Last year, for county purposes, it was twelve mills on the dollar—this year it is likely to be not more than one and one-half mills—so that property that is not assessed at more than eight times the value of last year, is not liable to pay more tax than it did then.

This is the simple statement of facts concerning a subject over which the *Post* is pouring out the wildest lamentations. It abounds in the strongest assertion, and employs language that is sadly wide of honest, correct statement. There was a time, a few months ago, when we could commend the honesty of tone and statement of the *Post*, but of late it is as weak as it is sensational. If there is a case of real oppression under the new form of assessment, its detailed explanations fail to show it. That there are cases where perfect satisfaction was expressed, when the proper explanations were made, the local columns of *Post* bear abundant evidence. Where, then, is the wisdom of attempting to make the people believe that they are to be oppressively taxed, when the *Post* knows that this is not the fact? We sympathize with the idea of candid, courteous criticism,—and will welcome it even from our cotemporary. But the absurd medley of fanatical raving, which it offers in place of honest criticism is more appropriate to an obscure country weekly than a metropolitan daily.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

With the adoption of the new Constitution the school system of this State may be said to have entered upon a new phase of existence. The minimum appropriation for the benefit of schools is necessarily larger than was the maximum amount under the old Constitution. There is not, however, anything in the fundamental law that serves to restrict the appropriation to the regularly established common schools. It is supposed that the Legislature will apply the appropriation to the public schools. But there is nothing to prevent special appropriations, out of this sum, to schools that serve a particular purpose, provided they are free to the general public, and are made to form a part of our system of public education. Thus the drawing schools are, it is thought, to be included in the appropriation this year; and with them, will be made an appropriation of $15,000, in three equal amounts, for technical education. This is understood to be in lieu of the Mechanics' High School, not yet established. Because $5,000 of this sum is to be appropriated to Western University, it is opposed by some. The objection is not valid. Whether it should have been specially appropriated to the High School might be a question,—but that it should apply to some educational institution in this city, capable of making a right use of it, is beyond cavil.

Passing by the many minor issues involved in this subject, we hold that the time is come when it is imperatively necessary that technical education should be imparted. Ours is not only an industrial country and community, but it is a well established fact that technical education has become, among us, an essential to skilled industry. Nearly every branch of labor that requires skill is now sub-divided, and under the ordinary system of apprenticeship, now almost obsolete, a person learns but part of a trade—a single phase of a given form of employment, and even this is merely taught mechanically, while its philosophy or the theory that underlies a given method is not understood. In the simplest process of iron manufacture it is proverbial that men follow the exact method they were taught—and can rarely give a reason for what they do—usually contenting themselves with the performance of a mere mechanical routine. The science of metallurgy, the chemical changes produced by certain processes, through which iron is passde, the reason for many simple operations, are utterly un known to many workmen. They are, so far as their work goes, so many pieces of human mechanism. It must be clear that work thus performed is very rarely of a superior quality.

Add to this the tyranny of the Trade Union system. It dictates that a certain number only of apprentices shall be allowed in a given place. This number is very much limited, and the apprentices are usually controlled by the operatives, and receive but limited instruction. The policy is to keep under control the number of workmen in a given branch of industry, in order that the price of labor may be easily and readily controlled. Were care taken to produce, in all instances, the best class of skilled labor, there would be little objection, but the worst feature of the system is its tendency to develop only an inferior class of operatives. The stimulus to effort is removed, by the assurance of uniformity in compensation, and comparative certainty of employment. At best, those having apprentices in charge devote but little attention to them, leaving them to ascertain by their own ingenuity and observation the best methods of labor. The result of this is, a small number, and a generally poor class of workmen. It is clearly established that skilled labor from foreign countries, actually commands a premium in the American market, while the product of our mills and factories and workshops is held in small esteem until it proves its value.

It should be apparent, to every thoughtful observer, that a remedy must be provided for this, or else there will be a steady depreciation in the value of American labor. Worse than this, if possible, we shall have an increasing number of persons driven into the professions, until these are crowded to excess. Still further, the dignity and honor, now bestowed on labor will be forfeited, and we will tend toward the evils of the old world, where the laboring classes are held under oppressions that fall but little short of the bondage of slavery. The technical schools we advocate are designed to meet this emergency, and provide a knowledge of the science that underlies much of the industry of the age, and also the mechanical skill, which constitutes what is called skilled labor. In other words, the ultimate design of the technical schools is to furnish the best quality of skilled labor to the country.

This is done in several of the old countries,—particularly in Switzerland. There children are taught the elements, the science, and then the mechanical skill. Polytechnic institutions, are only more advanced technical schools,—and these have attained great reputations in Switzerland. They there advance students to a point where they are permitted to take to their homes the finest mechanism of watches, and labor on them for pay. This is what Pittsburgh preeminently needs. It is a manufacturing city. Its industries require a high grade of intelligence and careful mechanical instruction. It is absurd to imagine that we shall have too many workmen. For many years, our industries will expand as rapidly as we have force to work them. And the very persons to be most largely benefited are the children of the working classes. The years spent in school will be equivalent to those employed in learning a trade. And when they are through their course of instruction they will be amply prepared to take a high place in the ranks of industry, and to command remunerative prices for their labor. Pittsburgh should favor technical schools.

The Coal Trade.

The quantity sent from this region for the last week was 79,695 tons by rail and 1,662 tons by canal; for the week, 81,297 tons against 89,420 tons for the corresponding week last year. Decrease, 8,123 tons. The supply from all the regions for the week was 261,757 tons Anthracite, and 48,285 tons Bituminous; for the week, 310,032 tons, against 387,680 tons for the corresponding week last year. Decrease, 77,508 tons. The whole supply so far this year is 2,962,077 tons, against 3,314,582 to corresponding period last year. Decrease, 352,455 tons, of which 345,420 tons is Anthracite.—*Pottsville Miners' Journal.*

THE ROYAL COUPLE.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh in England.

The London correspondent of the New York *World* says:—"The Duke of Edinburgh has brought home his bride. They landed at Gravesend this morning, having made the passage from Antwerp in a royal steam yacht. The weather was rather rough. Her Imperial Highness is not much of a sailor, and she was very ill during the voyage. However, during the passage of the yacht up the river she quite recovered, and by the time Gravesend was reached she displayed no traces of her recent indisposition, save that her eyes were a little swollen and her cheeks rather pale. She is not handsome; when she smiles she has a pleasant expression, but that is all. She seems to be an amiable young lady, and they say that she is very clever. I don't doubt it, but the encomiums which have been written upon her beauty by the English correspondents at St. Petersburg are simply absurd.

"The morning was clear and bright, the air was mild, and the scene at Gravesend was a pretty one. Three men-of war were moored off the town with their masts dressed and their yards manned; as the royal yacht appeared these ships fired a salute, and as the bride and bridegroom disembarked they fired another. The people of Gravesend had made great preparations, the town was handsomely decorated, and the whole route from the pier to the railway station was lined with the aristocracy of the place—no one being allowed to be present who was not a £12 householder. The Duchess, leaning on the arm of her husband, stepped down the gangway upon the pier. The daughter of the Mayor presented her with a bouquet in a gold holder, at which she smiled; then she and her husband walked to the other end of the pier between a double file of young ladies dressed in sailor costume as to their heads, necks, and breasts, but with petticoats below. These damsels held baskets of flowers, and these they strewed before the bride, who thereat smiled again, seeming well pleased. At the shore end of the pier the Recorder of the town presented an address. Four of the Queen's carriages were here waiting to convey the party to the railway station, and the route to the station as well as the station itself was as gay as bunting, flowers, arches, and numerous bands of music could make it. The special trains to carry the party to Windsor left Gravesend at half-past eleven, and making no stoppage between the two places arrived at Windsor at fifty-five minutes past twelve. There the queen met her daughter at the station. All Windsor was, of course, *en fete*, and to-night there will be grand illuminations and 'a bonfire fifty feet high.'"

HEART DISEASE.

Fashionable Complaint Among Ladies and Gentlemen.

In the course of a lecture recently delivered in New York, Dr. Lyman said:—"Heart disease, among both ladies and gentlemen, is the one most in vogue at present. A synonym for pseudo heart disease is indigestion. False modes of dress, by crowding the heart, cause it to beat irregularly. Remedy the dress, and the heart will healthfully perform its functions. The heart is almost the last organ to become diseased, because it has a great work to do. Nature made it strong and supplied it with as few nerves as possible. Women who faint, as a rule, have too small cavities for heart and lungs. Fainting is a provision of nature for the reinstatement of the body, by allowing the heart a brief respite. When the stomach is unduly distended by food, the heart is crowded and complains. Good, straight shoulders are highly essential to woman. If she possess an erect form, a woman's heart has a better opportunity to beat evenly and healthfully. Many mistake a palpitating sensation of the muscular wall of that portion of the stomach nearest the heart for an affection of the heart. Then the stomach is unduly distended by food, the heart is crowded and complains. Good, straight shoulders are highly essential to woman. If she possess an erect form, a woman's heart has a better opportunity to beat evenly and healthfully. Many mistake a palpitating sensation of the muscular wall of that portion of the stomach nearest the heart for a brief respite. When the stomach is unduly distended by food, the heart is crowded and complains. Good, straight shoulders are highly essential to woman. If she possess an erect form, a woman's heart has a better opportunity to beat evenly and healthfully. Many mistake a palpitating sensation of the muscular wall of that portion of the stomach nearest the heart for an affection of the heart

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DAILY GAZETTE.

FINANCIAL

Latest Advices Concerning Money and Stock Matters.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, MONDAY, March 23, 1874.

Last week closed with a slightly improved activity in the money market. Some of this was attributable to the usual Saturday activity, growing out of the demand for funds for payments. A portion may be attributed to the prepartions which are being made for first of April settlements. These aside, and the market is dull and sluggish in sympathy with the situation over the entire country.

A noticeable circumstance connected with the financial dullness in this country is the fact of a nearly equal dullness in Europe. The foreign markets, judging from Thursday's advices, are equally dull with our own, Consols and American securities being without animation and at a lower basis of prices. The Bank of England Directors made no change in the minimum rate of discount at the weekly meeting, so that the rate still stands at 3½ per cent. The Bank lost $644 only in bullion during the week, and gained £75,000 on balance. Rentes in paris were higher at 59.75, the Bank of France gaining 24,225,000. New York bankers engaged in representing foreign business have been purchasing gold recently, to send abroad for the purpose of import ing United States bonds.

The Philadelphia *Ledger* opposes the issue of twenty cent scrip. It says, "we do not see any useful purpose in the way of change to be served by the proposed issue of twenty cent notes. The discussions of the small note currency should be no more numerous than will change any of the larger to that of the smaller. If a purchase to the amount of five cents is to be made it may be paid in a dollar note, the change being readily furnished in one fifty cent note, one of twenty-five cents, and two of ten cents each. The twenty cent note will afford no convenience in change over what is afforded in the existing denominations. We can see no profitable purpose to be served by a twenty cent note except to the engraver, who we suppose, will be benefited to the extent of the profit on the engraved plate.

Jay Gould's entry into stock circles again, and his purposes the New York *World* says: "As for the plans of Gould, in whose hands the recent effects to undermine the credit of Erie are only cards in his game, they appear to be simple. Since his investments in Chicago and Northwestern common stock and bonds, consequent upon the losses of the "Northwest corner," various events have combined to suggest to him that it would be well to control also the trade between New York and San Francisco, which might include much trade between Europe and Eastern Asia in addition to the commerce of the United States in that direction. The ocean and all inland connection between New York and San Francisco is sufficiently arranged to suit him and the Pacific Mail Company is making great preparations to control the trade of the North Pacific Ocean. The overland route from New York to San Francisco is now, since Gould's election to the Union Pacific direction, arranged as far eastward as Chicago, over the lines of the Central and Union Pacific and the Chicago and Northwestern. The new route from Chicago to Buffalo, by the Chicago and Canada Southern, and the Canada Southern, is capable of being arranged for and properly completed. The real difficulties between Buffalo and New York. The New York Central road he cannot get; it is owned by those who control it, and they will not unite with him. The New York and Oswego Midland came to bankruptcy before completing its Buffalo extension, and many difficulties stand in the way of its completion. The Erie Railway alone remains, and would answer all Gould's purposes. To buy the control of Erie would cost an enormous sum of money, and this leads directly, in the mind of a man who once captured Erie on proxies, than the bold seizure of the share-mill, and was finally pitchforked out of it, to the notion of getting it under his control by ruining it. Having failed in his attempt to frustrate the Erie loan in London, he is now reported to entertain other designs. According to what is now said, resolutions are to be introduced next week in both houses of the State Legislature for the appointment of a special legislative committee to examine into Erie's affairs, and report to the Attorney-General within thirty days. Should that official consider anything to have gone wrong inside the Company, he is to appoint a Receiver to take charge of the concern. The rumors go so far as to name the Receiver, and to identify him with the supposed writer of a penitential pamphlet."

The Philadelphia and Trenton Railroad Company announces that it will pay a quarterly dividend of 2¼ per cent. on the 10th prox. The United Companies of New Jersey will pay a like quarterly dividend at the same time.

The transfer-books of the United Companies of New Jersey were closed Friday at 12 o'clock, preparatory to the payment of the quarterly dividend on the 10th of April.

Luther S. Kaufman, Broker, No. 96 Fourth Avenue, furnishes the following quotations of bonds and stocks from the latest advices by telegraph:

	Opened.	Closed.
Gold	111¾	111¾
U. S. Sixes—1881—coupons	12 ⅞	12 ⅞
Do., do. 1881	119⅝	119⅝
5-20 1862	117¾	117¾
5-20—1864	119⅝	119⅝
" 1865	120¾	120¾
" 1865 new.	118¾	118¾
" 1867	119⅝	119⅝
" 1868—coupons.	119⅝	119⅝
10-40's	114¾	114¾
Currency 6's	126¾	126¾
New 5 per cents	124¾	124¾
10-07's—coupons	114¾	114¾
RAILWAYS.		
New York Central	100⅜	100⅜
Erie	43	42⅝
A. & P. preferred	105⅜	105⅜
I. C.	105	105
R. H. & E.	1¾	1¾
C. C. & I. C.	30⅜	30⅜
St. Paul	42⅜	42⅜
Do. preferred	61⅜	61⅜
Michigan Southern	78⅜	78⅜
Do. Central	85⅜	85⅜
North Western Common	54⅜	54⅜
Do. preferred	72	
Rock Island	105⅜	105⅜
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	88⅜	88⅜
Pacific Mail	42⅜	41
Western Union Telegraph	77⅜	77
Ohio & Mississippi	30⅜	30⅜
Union Pacific	34	33⅜
Toledo & Wabash	47	48⅜
Harlem	123⅜	123
Chicago and Alton	103	103
Adams Express	97¾	98¾
American Express	64	64
U. S. Express	71⅜	71⅜
W., Fargo & Co. Express	77	75
Quicksilver		30⅜
Canton	76	76
Terre Haute	11	11
Panama		138½
Fort Wayne	94⅜	94⅜
Merchants Union Express	22⅜	22⅜
Hannibal and St. Joseph	31⅞	31⅞

Messrs. Robinson Bros., bankers, No. 18 Fourth avenue, furnish the following quotations of active stock on the Philadelphia Stock Board to-day:

	Closed.
Penna. Central	52
" " scrip	96¾
Reading	97⅜
United Cos. of N. J.	125⅜
Oil Creek	17
Lehigh Valley	61
A. V. R. R. 7-30	90⅞
Central Transportation	44⅜
Empire do.	51⅜

NEW YORK, March 21, 1874.

There was considerable stir among foreign bankers this afternoon on a report that Mr. Gottgetren, a lumber exporter, had disappeared after selling about £40,000 of bills on London, the only security for which was forged bills of lading. This gentleman had previously stood well in banking circles. He sold his bills direct to bankers. Money was very easy this afternoon, and loaned down to 2@3 per cent. Foreign exchange closed up dull at 484½ for prime bankers' sixty days sterling and 487½ for demand. Gold closed at 111¾, after selling at 112@111¾. The rates paid for carrying ranged from ¼ per cent. to flat. The clearances were $15,000,000. The Treasury operations for the week at the New York office incided the disbursement of $800,000 for interest and in redemption of 5-20 bonds, and the receipt of $2,574,744 for customs. The Treasury also sold $1,000,000 gold. The imports for the week were dry goods, $3,279,646; merchandise, $4,257,457; specie shipments $680,000, of which $429,000 were gold coin and bullion. Governments were strong and steady. State bonds were quiet, and lower figures for some. The stock market early in the day was devoid of any feature, except that prices were lower. During the afternoon the market continued weak, and closed at the lowest prices of the day. The leading stocks were Wabash, Lake Shore, Erie, Northwestern common and Western Union Telegraph. The sales between ten and two o'clock amounted to 117,000 shares, of which 29,900 were Western Union, 14,000 Wabash, 13,000 Lake Shore, 6,000 Erie, and 10,000 Northwestern common.

The weekly bank statement shows the following:

Loans, increase	$ 149,100
Specie, decrease	1,218,300
Legal tenders, decrease	1,488,200
Deposits, decrease	22,247,390
Circulation, decrease	3,600
Decrease in reserve	2,123,750

Government Bonds.—Sixes of 1881, 120¾; 5-20's '62, 117¾; do. '64, 119¼; do. '65, 120⅝; new do 118¾; 5 20s, '67, 120¾; do. '68 119⅝; new 5's, 114¾; 10-40's, 114¾; currency 6's, 117¾.

State Bonds.—Missouri, 93⅝; Tennessee, old, 90; do. new, 90; Virginia, new, 35; do. old, 32; North Carolina, old, 29; do. new, 21.

Stocks.—Canton, 76; Western Union Telegraph Co., 77; Quicksilver, 30¾; Adams Express, 98¾; Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express, 75; American Express, 64; United States Express, 71¾; Pacific Mail, 44; New York Central, 100⅝; Erie, 42⅝; do. preferred, 69¾; Harlem, 129; ex. div.; do. preferred, 130; Michigan Central, 85¾; Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago, 88¾; Northwestern common, 54¾; do. preferred, 72; Rock Island, 106¼; New Jersey Central, 106; St. Paul, 42¾; do. preferred, 63¾; Fort Wayne, 94¾; Terre Haute, 12; do. preferred, 30; Chicago & Alton, 103¼; do. preferred, 107; Ohio & Mississippi, 30⅜; Cleveland, Columbus & Cincinnati, 75¾; Burlington & Quincy, 103; Lake Shore, 77; Panama, 30½; Illinois Central, 104; Union Pacific, 33¾; Central Pacific, 94¼; Union, 82¾; Delaware & Lackawanna, 108½; Hartford & Erie, 13¾.

LONDON, March 21—5 P. M.—Consols 92@92¼; 5 20s of '62, new, do of '67, 109¾; 10 40s, 103¾; new 5s, 104¾; Erie, 39¾; preferred, 64.

PARIS, March 21.—Rentes 29f 70c.

COMMERCIAL

Condition of the Markets at Home and Abroad.

PITTSBURGH MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, SATURDAY, March 21, 1874.

Trade in general merchandise, although by no means active, has, probably, been a little better during the past week, and hopes are entertained that, as soon as the weather becomes more settled and the country roads get better, there will be a decided revival in business generally. There has been a heavy rain to-day, what recently, and there is also a very fair demand for all kinds of country produce, but prices, particularly in butter and eggs, have commenced to shrink, and, in a word, there is an easier feeling for almost everything in this line. The grocery trade is dull, while the sales are little, le far from being active, and what is worse this competition is very sharp, hence margins are very small; the demand, however, is quite large the week was the decline of 4@5c ₱ lb in Rio coffee. There is nothing new to record in regard to breadstuffs—the market is quiet and prices unchanged.

APPLES—The receipts of Apples continue fair for the season, the supply, especially of good fruit, is very much reduced, prices, however, remain at last quotations, ranging from $3@5 ₱ bri, according to quality.

APPLE BUTTER—6½c ₱ gallon.
BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—$4¼@4 ₱ bri.
BEANS—Still quotable at 2.15@2.20 ₱ bushel for mediums, and $2.25@2.30 for navies.
BUTTER—There is no abatement in the arrivals, and with an abatement in the demand apparently, stocks are accumulating slightly, prices are weak and drooping; we now quote at 28@32 for prime to choice.
CHEESE—Prime Ohio Factory at 17@17½, and New York at 16½@16¾.
CRANBERRIES—$14@17 ₱ bri.
DRIED FRUIT—Apples still quotable at 6@7½. Peaches, prime halves, 12@13½, mixed, 10@11.
EGGS—The arrivals continue liberal and with a heavy supply, which is steadily increasing and dealers are gradually anxious to realize, and to-day the bulk of the hogs on sale were picked up and the 3, 400 at a slight improvement in prices. Prime to extra Philadelphia hogs may be fairly quoted at 6.50 to 6.60; good mixed at 6 25@6.40 and Yorkers at 6.20@6.25. Those who are fully posted in regard to the matter that hogs are bringing all they are worth, taking the product as a basis of comparison, and any further appreciation in the former, therefore, is not likely unless there is a corresponding movement in the latter.

SHEEP.

The sheep market, so far at least as the selling interest was concerned, was the best we have had yet; prices ruled higher this week, if we do not mistake, than for a year past, and from ½@¾c a cent per ₱ above last week, and, furthermore, notwithstanding this sharp advance, trade was active—the supply was scarcely equal to the demand. We are cognizant of two bunches having brought over 5c, the one 5,10 and the other 5.25—they were very fine, of course, in point of quality, but there were plenty of sales at 5@5¼c, and, so far as we can learn, there was nothing sold below 4c. Good 90 to 100 ₱ sheep may be quoted at 5¼@5¾, and 110@130 at 5¾@5¾. Eriesman reports having shipped some 40 cars to New York, which would leave but 28 cars for Philadelphia. The indications are sheep are destined to rule high until shearing is over, as producers will not sell unless they can obtain very full prices.

PITTSBURGH PETROLEUM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, SATURDAY, March 21, 1874.

The course of the Crude market has been rather checkered during the past week, although the fluctuation has not been much greater than usual. During the early part of the week an attempt was made to run prices up but it proved a failure, and during the past day or two a reaction the other way set in, and at the close prices were considerably lower. Dispatches from Parker to day quoted at $1.32¾@1.35; we heard of one lot of five thousand barrels having been offered at the inside figure early in the day. Sales were made here in bulk barrels at 4½—we heard of one barge having been sold on Friday evening at 4¾, but this is possibly below the market, and for aught we know there may have been something behind it, as is not unfrequently the case. In regard to the future of the market operators, as might be expected, entertain conflicting views. Refiners, very generally, appear to be confident that present prices cannot be sustained, in view of the depressed condition of the market for the product, but producers and even others claim very confidently that the production is rapidly decreasing, and that not only will present prices be sustained, but that a further advance soon is not improbable.

There is no improvement to note in the market for Refined; notwithstanding prices are down to, if not below, the cost of manufacture, refiners are refusing to sell at the figure named, and little or no demand for spot and not much inquiry for futures. As we have before stated, the great majority of the refiners have shut down, and those who have not, are working on contracts made some time since which they were much better than can now be obtained. Philadelphia dispatches quoted at 14¾ on spot; 14¾ for April, 15 for May and 15½ for June.

There is but little doing in barrels, and prices are nominally unchanged at $1.65 for countries, and $1.70 for city brands.

Receipts crude this week	22,643	obls
last week	21,210	"
Jan'y 1 to date	374,168	"
same time, 1873	360,438	"
Exports refined this week	1,540	"
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Jan'y 1 to date	94,871	"
same time 1873	110,388	"

CRUDE OIL RECEIVED BY ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAD.

Shipper	Consignee	Rbls.
Stevenson	Radiant O. W.	39
Stevenson	Central O. W.	2,256
A Smack	Riverside O. W	73
Fisher Bros.	Sunbeam O. W.	468
Hutchinson	Fairview O. W.	557
T Hackett	Citizens O. W.	451
Tack Bros.	Vesta O. W.	467
Total.		4,654

IRON MARKETS.

NEW YORK, March 20—American Pig—The Iron market in all branches exhibits almost complete stagnation. There seems to be no demand and little disposition on the part of sellers to urge sales in the present state of the market. Our reports from Great Britain, both by mail and telegraph, indicate that affairs are about as bad there, with more room for prices to drop than there is here. There is no quotable change in prices, and the companies still generally refuse to sell for second delivery at present rates, though a good many orders have been booked at prices to be fixed hereafter. We note a sale of 2,000 tons Foundry No. 2 at 12c, Lehigh Valley company on private terms, also 300 tons Gray at 12¾ cash, at furnace—this is said in the Lehigh region. We quote selling prices as follows: Foundry No. 2, $13@13½; Gray Forge, 12½@13; Scotch Pig—There has been very little doing during the past week. We quote Coltness $13. Glengarnock $14@14½; Eglinton $13.50@13.75. At last advices the number of furnaces in blast in Scotland was 125 a year ago and 126 a week ago, and the stock of warrants had increased 7,000 tons since the first of January. Here—there are still almost entirely neglected. Prices are difficult to quote, but 3 to 3.2 seems to be a fair average. A few mills still quote 3.5, claiming that they are under that are made at a loss. Rails—There is no business to report in Rails. In the absence of transactions it is quite impossible to quote prices, but the strong probability is that a cash offer would bring out a very low price. American are quoted the same as previously, without change. Old Rails—We note sales of 1,000 tons and 600 tons on private terms. We quote $44@41—Iron Ages.

ST. LOUIS, March 20—This market exhibits no particular demand, although there is an improved inquiry. This doubtless is caused by the general recovery from the winter dullness, and the desire to make arrangements for future business. There has been no notable inquiry for Bessemer Irons. The purchases of the market that have been made of late for some time are not yet running, notwithstanding which we note a decline in some descriptions of stone coal and charcoal Irons. Quotations do not show lower rates in the various markets of the country an apparent strengthening of prices. Sales have been fair in amount, consequent upon the low rates—Globe.

PHILADELPHIA, March 21.—Pig iron continues dull at $18@18.50 for No. 1 foundry and $16@16.50 for No. 2 do. Manufactured iron sells at 3c ₱ lb, and nails at $4.25 ₱ keg.

New York Wool Market.

NEW YORK, March 21.—The Tribune says: We have again to report the general market quiet, but without any further weakening in prices. There is more inquiry, however, for both Domestic and Foreign Wools, the London sales having closed firmly, and in some cases at a small advance on previous figures, but the jobbing trade as a rule is not at all satisfactory, although we learn some few houses with good styles of goods have been doing very well. The factory report business very dull. Stocks of wool are unquestionably light, but manufacturers continue to buy sparingly, and in general are only supplying immediate wants. Notwithstanding this dullness some house within the past three days have done considerable. The sales of wool so been made this week of about 600 bales Fall California at 40@50c, on spot, at 52@55c, at 60 quality. Shelled is also in light supply, but there is not much inquiry for it. There is a steady demand for Rice and it is selling on arrival at 6@6 1.05. There is little or nothing doing in Barley for the present.

GROCERIES—The market continues dull and in an unsatisfactory condition, but it is hoped and expected that before we will much be change for the better. The demand for the leading staples has been meagre for some weeks past, confined entirely to supplying limited wants of cities, while as regards values, there have been no changes, with the exception of Coffee, of any importance.

SUGARS.—Patent Cut Loaf, 12¼; Crushed, Powdered and Granulated, 11¼; Standard A, 10¾; B, 10⅜; Ex. C, 10; C, 9⅞; Franklin Extra C, 9¾; Franklin No. 2 Extra C, 9⅝; American Extra C, 9; Yellow Sugars, 8 to 9, as to quality.

COFFEE.—Choice Rio, 20@21; good to prime, 19@20; fair, 17@18. Roasted 1 pound packages, 23@31; loose, 20@30¾.

MOLASSES.—Strictly prime new crop New Orleans, 80; fair to prime old, 70@75.

SYRUPS—Extra White Drips, 70c; Sugar Drips, 60c; Amber, 60@65; lower grades, 35@40, as to quality.

RICE—Choice Carolina, 9¾; Patna, 8¾c; Rangoon, 6¾c.

HAY—The supply of prime is comparatively light, and the market is firmer in consequence, but prices have undergone no quotable change. We continue to quote at from 6 up to 6.50. There were no really extra cattle on sale; had there been, 6¾, perhaps 7c, could no doubt have been realized, as the supply was mainly for the finer grades, and as we have already stated, the supply of this particular kind was scarcely equal to the demand. The feeling seems to generally prevail among dealers that prime cattle are destined to rule high during the next 60 or 90 days, as the supply is not excessive, and as lent is about over, and poultry and game are out of season, an increased consumption of beef is expected, hence a greater number of cattle will be required.

An erroneous impression prevails to some extent among people who know little or nothing about the stock trade, and we will here take occasion to correct it. It is contended that as there has been a heavy reduction in drovers' rates recently, that the cost of cattle has been cheapened to that extent, and they argue, therefore, that butchers should reduce the price of beef accordingly. The fact is the producer is the one to whom that realizes any advantage by the reduction in the cost of transportation, and in proof of this it is only necessary to state that cattle are bringing higher prices now than they did before the reduction was made. The cheaper the freights the more money the producer can obtain for his stock, but it is no advantage whatever to the drover or butcher.

QUOTATIONS.

Extra 1,400 steers	6.60@6.75
Prime 1,300@1,350 steers	6.25@6.37
Good 1,150@1,250 steers	6.00@6.12
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Stockers, 800@900 lbs	4.90@4.50
Bulls, as to quality	3.50@5.00
Old cows, stags etc., etc.	3.50@4.00

HOGS.

The arrivals, as will be seen, were considerably larger than they have been for some time past, and during the early part of the week, the market, under the influence of warm wet weather, together with the fact that the Philadelphia shippers got all they could handle on consignment, was very dull, and prices declined fully 25c per cwt, within the last week or two, however, a better feeling has sprung up, the arrivals having dropped off somewhat and the weather usually becomes more favorable, and to-day the bulk of the hogs on sale were picked up and the 3, 100 at a slight improvement in prices. Prime to extra Philadelphia hogs may be fairly quoted at 6.50 to 6.60; good mixed at 6 25@6.40 and Yorkers at 6.20@6.25. Those who are fully posted in regard to the matter that hogs are bringing all they are worth, taking the product as a basis of comparison, and any further appreciation in the former, therefore, is not likely unless there is a corresponding movement in the latter.

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Total.		4,654

IRON MARKETS.

NEW YORK, March 20—American Pig—The Iron market in all branches exhibits almost complete stagnation. There seems to be no demand and little disposition on the part of sellers to urge sales in the present state of the market.

HOME NEWS.

Letters Held for Postage. March 22.

Mr. Andy, Pittsburgh, Pa., 1c; Martin Connelly, Dwinddle, Michigan, 3c; James A. Dick, W. Newton, Pa., 1c; Wm. Farley, Pittsburgh, Pa., 1c; Mina Genter, Alliance, Ohio, 3c; Ed. Ginn, Boston, Mass., 3c; Susie Geestreer, Pittsburgh, Pa., 2c; Max Hollstein, Pittsburgh, Pa., 2c; Lydia Myers, Pittsburgh, Pa., 2c; Lister Romania, Nazareth, Ky., 6c; Warren Smith, Boothsville Pa., 1c; J. Sting, Reading, Pa., 2c; Alonzo Snow, Port Deposit, Md., 3c.

E. C. NEGLEY, P. M.

Early Potatoes.

Mr. Joseph Spencer (of the firm of Spencer, McKay & Co.) who resides at Homewood, East End, showed us Saturday, a bucketful of potatoes as large as eggs, grown by himself in hot beds. They are equal to the Bermuda potatoes, usually seen in our market in the early spring, and may be taken as evidence that such skillful cultivators as Mr. Spencer might supply our market with this valuable esculent, of home growth, as early as they can be brought from the South, and much more desirable because more wholesome.

Suicide of a Young Merchant.

John E Aber, a young merchant of Industry, committed suicide on Saturday morning by shooting himself through the head with a rifle. The deceased had gone to his store about six o'clock, where his mother found him a short time after lying dead near the stove, he having shot himself through the head, the hemispheres of the brains being parted. Deceased was single, 25 years of age and subject to temporary fits of insanity, and it is in one of these, undoubtedly, that he committed the act. He was a sober man and was generally well liked.

Accident at the Work House.

On last Friday afternoon as two carpenters were at work at the ceiling of the cell-room of the new building of the Work House, at Claremont, the scaffolding in which they were standing gave way, and the men fell to the ground, a distance of about twenty feet. One of them, James McDonald, escaped with a few bruises, the other sustained a fracture of one of his leg, and other severe injuries. He was removed to his boarding at house Hoboken and medical aid summoned.

Burglars on Liberty Street.

On yesterday morning the premises of Felix Henli, No. 429 Liberty street, was found to have been entered during the night and the following property stolen: nearly five hundred cigars, a pipe, decorated with emblems of the order of Red Men and Odd Fellows, a meerchaum cigar holder and a black frock coat. The thieves gained an entrance by forcing the cellar door, and then going up stairs. The safe was not closed till ten minutes to twelve o'clock on Saturday night, and consequently, the burglary must have been committed sometime after that hour. The thieves left no clue. Notice has been left at the Mayor's office.

Funeral of Dr. Elliott.

The funeral of the late Rev. Dr. David Elliott took place from the North Presbyterian Church, Allegheny, on Saturday morning. At nine o'clock the Presbyterian ministers of the two cities, the faculties and students of the Theological Seminaries, met at the Western Theological Seminary and proceeded in a body to the residence of the deceased, whence the remains were conveyed to the church. Rev. Drs. Horablower, Hodge, Jacobus, Wilson, Halsey and Page conducted the ceremonies which were of the most impressive description. The pall bearers were Rev. Drs. Hill, Smith, Donaldson, Williams, Hodge, Horablower, Jacobus, Halsey and Wilson.

Anniversary Entertainment.

The "Young People's Mutual Improvement Association" celebrated their fifth anniversary in the First R. P. Church on last Friday evening. The exercises were opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Young, the newly elected pastor of that congregation. This was followed with a finely delivered essay, entitled "Hidden Gems," by Miss Mattie McClure. Master Edward Munn then delivered a declamation, entitled "Perhassius and the Captive," which was well received. The choir then sang an "Easter Anthem" with pleasing effect. This was followed by a debate on the subject "Which is the Stronger Form of Government, a Monarchy or a Republic," favoring a monarchy Messrs. A. W. Munn and F. E. McCutcheon, Republic: James Gilmore, J. W. Houston. After a lengthy consideration the judges decided in favor of the Monarchy. The speakers were earnest in their discussion of the subject, and were frequently applauded during their remarks, especially Mr. Houston, who appeared in his happiest humor. After a song by the choir, Miss Nannie Boyce read an essay entitled "The mountains are wearing away," which was highly appreciated by the audience. Mr. J. W. Young then gave a declamation entitled "The Green Mountain Boys," which was received with bursts of laughter. By request, Mr. W. McCance then followed with an explanation "why his old rooster wouldn't die," and was heartily applauded. The President, Mr. A. Munn, then thanked the audience for their close attention and kind appreciation of the efforts for their entertainment. The meeting closed after a "good night song" by the choir and benediction. The music, both vocal and instrumental, added largely to the enjoyment of the occasion. The choir was under the leadership of Mr. James Dunlap, and consisted of the following persons: Misses Sadie McCutcheon, Mary Drum, Kate Munn, Bella Sample, and Messrs. F R. McCutcheon, John W. Young and Edward Munn.

DISAPPOINTED.

A Concert that was Announced but did not Come Off.

Yesterday afternoon an organization known as the Prussian Band, was advertised to give a sacred concert in the Odd Fellow's Hall on the South Side. The company arrived in the city yesterday afternoon and at once in one of the omnibusses came to the concert place. Their surprise must have been great, for when they got there a large crowd of people were outside, but the entrance doors were locked and no key to be found. The janitor was hunted up, but he said he had been notified not to open the doors by the authorities as the concert would not be allowed by them. The consequence was, that no concert was given, and the Prussian Band is just minus the amount of the receipts less expenditures and a large crowd of Germans are sadly disappointed.

KILLED BY A STREET CAR.

Fatal Accident to a Child on the South Side.

Coroner McCallin held an inquest last evening on the body of a little boy named James Quin at his parents' residence, No. 1822 Larkins alley, Twenty-sixth ward, South Side. It seems that about four o'clock yesterday afternoon the funeral of Andreas Engel was coming down from Mount Washington headed by a brass band. At the same time car No. 1, P. O. Lytle, driver, of the Ormsby line, came up Sarah near eighteenth street, where a large number of people had congregated. When the band approached, the horses took fright and came away with the car and before they could be stopped, the lad was struck and run over, being instantly killed. Lytle was arrested and placed in the Twenty-first ward lock-up, but the evidence was so clear, that it was accidental, that the jury rendered a verdict to that effect, and exonerated him from all blame. The boy was but four years of age.

THE REVISORS.

The Board of Revisors met at ten o'clock Saturday morning in the Common Council chamber.

Mr. Lewis, from the Special Committee on the Seventeenth ward, reported the schedule per foot front. On Butler street, north side, from Fortieth to Fiftieth, the rate per foot averaged $300 for lots 150 feet in depth; for 100 and under $200, the rates decreasing travelling northward. On the south side of Butler street the average was about $200. Pensylvania avenue from Fortieth street and Forty-first and Forty second streets, average $65; Forty-third street, average $100. Forty fourth street, average $75; Forty fifth street, average $75; Forty-sixth street, average $70; Forty-seventh street, $65; Forty-ninth street, average $60. Streets running at right angles to numbered streets, excepting Butler, from $45 per 100 in depth to $75. Acres from $14,000 to $17,000.

Appeals were then heard from the Sixth ward, after which the Board adjourned.

ANNUAL REPORT.

U. S. Military Post Library Association —A Work for the Benevolent and Patriotic.

The annual report of the United States Military Post Library Association is at hand. During the past year, 3,786 volumes of books of history, travel, fiction, &c., were sent to army posts, besides nearly 170,000 copies of secular and religious periodicals. 5 temperance lodges, 14 literary and debating societies and 9 reading clubs were formed. 2,324 letters relating to the moral, religious and literary wants of the various army posts—were received at the head quarters of the Association, and 2,880 written in response. During the year the Association transacted 1,700 Literary Commissions for the army, amounting to upwards of $11,000.

This effort to improve the morale of the army must commend itself to every intelligent mind. The above association is supported entirely by voluntary contributions, and funds are just now greatly needed to carry on the good work. Wm. Pitt Palmer, Esq., is the treasurer of the association, No. 157 Broadway, New York city. Last year about $1,000 were contributed to this cause in Pittsburgh and Allegheny city.

ENFORCING THE LAW.

It Works Well in this City and Results in a Quiet Sabbath.

The Sunday liquor law enforcement was plainly visible on our streets yesterday. The policemen seemed to stand on the corners, Othello-like, with occupations gone. On the Diamond, saloons, where thirsty Aldermen or more dry city officials were wont to quench their thirst, were for the nonce closed. On Smithfield street, the "bug juice" mill was still, while on Penn avenue the aspect of parched throats was awful. Out on fifth avenue painful watching of one hour in one locality noticed not one man going in an alley only to come out, chewing cloves, as was noticeable on previous Sabbath days. Taken all in all the day was the quietest known in the city for a long time. Cigar stores and little confectionaries where *terra alba* is sold for candy, find a mixture of molasses and dirt for taffy were also closed, and many a father this morning reports a clean shirt front just because he didn't have it dabbed by his "little pet," and he is, consequently, better natured.

The lock-up showed the effects in only seven inmates being registered there at twelve o'clock last night. Certainly, the day was well observed, but drug stores sold their share, and all you had to do was to go in and give them a little slip with *Spts. Frumenti* written on it in such a quantity as was desired and the "poison" was forthcoming.

HOME MISSIONS.

An Enjoyable Anniversary Gathering.

Ladies' Home Missionary Society—Reviewing the Work of a Year—The Good Accomplished by One Philanthropic Society—Addresses by Rev. Drs. Dashiell and Loomis.

Last evening the ninth anniversary meeting of the Ladies' Home Missionary Society was held in Christ M. E. church, Penn avenue. This organization is the representative, in home missionary work, of the M. E. churches of this vicinity. It is one of those societies which, by its practical philanthropy and effective, though unostentatious work, strongly commends itself to the sympathies of every one whose heart has any impulse for the elevation of the neglected. The interest taken in the occasion was manifest by the attendance of an audience that filled the spacious auditorium of the church, and gave undivided attention to the exercises, though they continued for about two hours.

The presiding officer of the occasion was Joseph Horne, Esq., who opened the programme about eight o'clock with a brief announcement of the purpose of the gathering. Rev. Dr. George Loomis was then called upon and read the "coronation" hymn commencing

"All hail the power of Jesus' name"

which was sung by the congregation, led by the choir, and was followed with prayer by the Rev. Dr. E. A. Johnson.

President Horne stated that as the Rev. Mr. J. C. High was absent at Conference, the reading of the report of the City Missionary would have to be dispensed with.

The Choir then gave a voluntary after which a young gentleman—whose elocutionary powers were evidently well developed—read the annual report of the officers as follows.

MANAGERS' REPORT.

Some years ago, a few Christian men awakened to the consciousness that the use of their talents was not meeting the approval of their Master, and looking around for means of increase—the great necessity of Home Mission work attracted their attention. Quick to recognize duty, and eager to make known the "way of salvation" a Missionary was appointed, and for two years labored successfully.

The increasing magnitude of the work, demanded additional helpers. Woman with her patient sympathy, and self sacrificing devotion, could best understand, and relieve the miseries of humanity, and into her hands was given this blessed work. A society was formed—the Ladies Home Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having for its object, the

SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL RELIEF

of the destitute. For nine years this society has been in operation. Overcoming discouragement, triumphing over its weakness, the work has steadily gone on, and now we feel the Home Mission has become a permanent power in the Church. In Centenary Church, Wood's Run, Thirty-third street, hundreds of men, women, and children taught of God, and ministered unto, we recognize not our own monument, but the blessing and presence of Him, whose glory we seek.

The past year has been even more successful than former ones. Our work has been enlarged, and the demands upon the treasury satisfied.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL BRANCH

of our work is prosperous. As scholars are removed by the various causes that influence mission districts, new ones take their places, and the influence for good is thus constantly extending, and not until time shall be no more can the faithful teachers know the number of souls saved through their instrumentality.

Our desire is not only to teach "Christ and Him crucified," but to train the children to become useful members of society. Accordingly, during this year, sewing, or

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS

have been established at three of our mission points. They are open every Saturday afternoon, from October to April. The classes are under the charge of competent ladies, and the exercises are so varied and attractive, that each school opening with not a dozen scholars, has been weekly increasing its numbers.

Bradley Chapel is under the control of Miss Hunnings and Mrs. W. Drake, and has sixty scholars. Green street under the care of Mrs. G. Raynor and Miss Lizzie Horner, has fifty, and Thirty third street with Mrs. Shutterly as its superintendent, has seventy scholars.

It is to be regretted that not one of these schools has a sufficient force of teachers. The classes are overcrowded, but through the devoted efforts of the ladies directly engaged more than six hundred garments have been made. Surely there are young ladies in localities near these schools who have the leisure and the inclination to teach neglected girls in woman's own peculiar province—the use of the needle.

THE DORCAS SOCIETY.

The Dorcas Society, in its usual winter work, had large demands. The late financial depression that was felt even by those most favored of fortune, caused unusual suffering among the poor. More than three hundred articles of clothing have been distributed by the Managers and Bible Reader. It is necessary to guard against imposition that applicants should be visited before relief is given. Two of the Managers, Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Fleming have been especially active in visitation.

BIBLE READING.

Our Bible Reader—Miss Elliott, has effectually satisfied the want of systematic visiting that has been felt for a long time in the society. Many sad hearts have been brightened with words of cheer and comfort, the wandering have been recalled by Christian fellowship, and sin-darkened souls made to realize a Father's forgiveness as they have listened to the wonderful words of love uttered by the Saviour of the world. Miss Elliott has made 2,446 visits, distributed 7,994 tracts and papers, and has given temporal relief as often as possible.

Our assistant Rev. J. C. High, has been zealous in his efforts to spread "the glad tidings of love and salvation." Preaching services have been held at four places, and we are under many obligations to those local preachers who have assisted Mr. High.

The Treasurer reports having received and expended $2 298 95.

Thanks are due Mrs. C. B. Shea and Mrs. Wm. Vankirk for entertainments given, the results of which added very considerably to the treasury.

FUTURE NEEDS.

While acknowledging the generosity of our friends, we make an appeal for increased contributions during the coming year. Many opportunities for doing good are lost from the fact that hunger and cold close the heart to religious impressions. When God's natural gifts to man are given to those suffering for them, the great gift of His Son is more easily comprehended.

More especially would we ask help for Green St. This is one of our most promising mission points, but there is a debt of $1700 upon the building. The officers, and teachers have been most generous in their endeavors to relieve the debt, but we fear the work will be retarded, unless a special effort is made by the Society to remove the embarrassment.

IN MEMORIAM.

Our report would be incomplete without a tribute to the memory of Mrs. T. M'Clintock, an efficient manager who died in the early part of the year. We miss her sympathetic face, and the counsels of her Christian, she has gone "to be with Christ," which is far better.

In this report it is impossible to give all the details of a society, whose work is so diffusive. It must be apparent to all that

EACH YEAR OPENS NEW AVENUES

of Christian labor. Many more hand and hearts are needed consecrated to Christ's service and willing to minister unto His "little ones," conscious that in so doing they are so serving Him.

A spirit of religious awakening is abroad. O! women of Methodism, let us be up and doing that we may not miss the Pentecostal shower—that we may be better enabled to "enter into the closet to render unto Him, for all His gifts, His own, with usury."

Respectfully submitted,

MARY S. MCKEE,
Corresponding Secretary.

THE BIBLE READER'S WORK.

The report of the Bible Reader, Miss M. A. Elliott, set forth that she had visited 2 446 families, read the Scriptures to 781 families, distributed 4 781 tracts, 724 religious papers, including temperance papers, 12 Bibles, and nine Testaments. She had brought into the Sabbath School nine children."

"Although the last year has been one of toil, yet we feel that it has been in some measure one of success, but not as much so as we could desire. The harvest truly is great but the laborers few. This is no time to stand idle in the Master's vineyard. Very many are waiting for some kind hand to lead them to the Savior."

The report then cited a number of affecting instances of destitution and want that have come under the observation of the Bible Reader, and closed by saying: "But neither time nor space will permit me to enumerate one fourth of the cases of distress I meet with. I have visited the Penn Hospital four times and find that a part of the vineyard that needs Christian labor and sympathy. Pray for us, that we may be faithful laborers in the vineyard of the Lord, and that we may do with our might what our hands find to do."

"In relieving the poor I have distributed one hundred and thirty pieces of clothing, forty yards of cotton flannel and four yards of calico."

"I have received from Smithfield Street Methodist Church $49 11; from Rev. Mr. High $10; Mrs. Dravo $1; Mrs. Bradley $1, of which I have expended $54 41, leaving a balance of $5.70."

THE TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Report of the Treasurer, Miss Jennie Horner, shows receipts amounting to $2,298,95 as follows: From Christ church $1,601,92; Smithfield street $98; Liberty street $32; Emory church $54; Butler street church $43,80; Pennsylvania avenue church $44; Centenary $15; Union church, Allegheny $100; South Common $13; North Avenue, Allegheny, $40; miscellaneous sources $25,35. The disbursements were City Missionary $1,500; Bible Reader $350, and other expenses $73, leaving a few dollars in the Treasury.

The Dorcas Fund account shows collections amounting to $245, and expenditures $222. The money was expended for clothing, and for the relief of the destitute poor. This fund is separate from the regular society's funds and can be used for no other purpose.

After the reading of the reports the choir sang a very appropriate hymn, commencing,

"Take the name of Jesus with you,
Child of sorrow and of woe;
It will give you joy and comfort give you,
Take it then where'er you go."

THE ADDRESSES

President Horne now introduced Rev. Dr. Loomis of Allegheny College, who made a brief but earnest and practical address. The theme of the address was the special preparation needed for success in the home missionary work. It was asserted that not among the essentials was a more thorough consecration of the heart and mind to the service of the Master. From this entire consecration would flow out Christian impulses of charity, of long suffering, of patience of earnestness, with the lost and wandering that would ultimately bring them within the pale of spiritual influences, and lead them to a higher, and better, and holier life. The speaker elaborated this outline with forcible illustrations and practical suggestions, which made the address as interesting as it was effective.

Rev. Dr. D. L. Dashiell, one of the missionary secretaries of the church, was next introduced, and delivered an address of considerable length, but which the audience evidently would have borne with had it been almost indefinitely prolonged. After a few words of general introduction the speaker divided his discussion of "what shall be done with the neglected masses" into two questions: first, "Can they be saved?" and second, "Who is to do the work?" Upon the first point he argued, if the church really believed in the Gospel commission, "He can save to the uttermost," there would be no difficulty in answering the question whether the neglected and forlorn and degraded, could be saved. The reason why the Christian church had never been half the power that it should have been, in the Home Missionary work, was because of the failure to genuinely and earnestly feel the truth that Christ came to save to the uttermost.

Upon the second question, the argument was that, though the power for their salvation came from the Savior of all, yet to Christian men and women belonged the work of reaching after the lost and wandering ones; the masses would not voluntarily come to the Gospel feast, but must be reached out for, must be sought out and persuaded to come, must be moved to accept salvation. This change depended upon the efforts of Christian men and women, and this was "Mission" work.

This outline gives perhaps but a faint idea of the completeness of the address. It certainly fails to convey an impression of the magic charm of cultured eloquence with which the silvery tongued orator enforced his plea for Home Mission work. The speaker gave evidence of a singularly felicitous power of illustration; and the exercise of this faculty, not unfrequently, brought a rather suspicious moisture in many a hearer's eyes.

At the close of Dr. Dashiell's address, President Horne was moved to say a word or two, which were elongated into a "business man's" speech of an interesting and very effective character. He referred to the fact of the good work done by the society, its rapidly increasing influence, the pressing demands made upon it, and the necessity for a livelier interest, in its operations, among his "lay brethren"—an interest which he desired them to express in a pecuniary way.

The speech or speeches seemed to have a good effect, for the collection taken up immediately afterward aggregated a comfortable amount.

The reports read, the speeches over, the collection taken up, finished the programme and the audience was dismissed with the benediction by Rev. Dr. Dashiell. The meeting was one of the most enjoyable and successful ever held by the Society, and its influence upon the future work of the Society, can hardly be but beneficial both in a financial way, and in the way of recruits to the ranks of the workers, who have heretofore been upholding the cause.

AMUSEMENTS.

PITTSBURGH OPERA HOUSE.—The emotional play of the "New Magdalen," dramatized from Wilkie Collins' novel, will be presented at the Opera House this evening, with Miss Annie Firmin in the character of *Mercy Merrick*, and Mr. John Jack as *Julian Gray*. The press of the cities wherein this version of the "New Magdalen" has been performed, speak in equal praise of the play and actors. The plot of the piece is interesting, but sensational and at times forcible and suggestive, and the language used refined and elegant. Miss Firmin is powerful, but her acting is controlled with the utmost delicacy. Mr. Jack is a gentlemanly and manly actor, and what can be said of Miss Firmin's characteristics, the quiet force and individuality of her style, can be equally well said of the gentleman in the role of the clergyman." The Opera House will doubtless be crowded during the present week.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The management have announced this as positively the last week that Carncross & Dixey's popular Minstrels will perform at the Academy of Music, and the knowledge of this fact will undoubtedly fill the house every evening to witness their inimitable performances. The programme for the closing week's entertainment will be entirely new. The screaming burlesques of "The Modoc," "The Mormon Bromios," the "Coal Heaver's Strike," the "Haunted House," and "Schneider's Courtship" will be among the attractions never before enacted here. The first parts will also be new and lively. There is a fine quality in their performance that is greatly enjoyed by the fun-loving public, and is at times very amusing and irresistibly funny. Secured seats can be obtained without extra cost.

LIBRARY HALL.—Three nights of the grand Italian Opera, by the Limadi Murska Opera Company, commencing on Monday evening March 30, are announced in another column. The New York and Boston press evidently cannot award Mlle. di Murska too much praise, pronouncing her the greatest star that ever visited the United States, while Mlle. Sorel, the celebrated Mexican prima donna, who created such a furore at her debut in New York recently, comes in for an equal share of laudation. Mlle Isadia Colson, the popular contralto, Sig. Vizzani, the celebrated tenor from Her Majesty's Opera, London, and other distinguished singers, form a part of the company. The opening performance will be "Lucia," to be followed on Tuesday evening by "Faust," and closing the season on Wednesday with the opera of "Martha." The sale of seats for the three performances will commence on Wednesday morning, at Messrs. H. Kleber & Bros., Wood street.

MUSICAL.—The quarterly matinee of the American Conservatory of Music, on Saturday afternoon, was attended by a very large and appreciative audience, and was in every way a success. Want of space prevents an extensive notice of the various performers, but the programme as a whole was well rendered and gave very general satisfaction.

THE COUNTY ASSESSMENT CONTEST.

Several Assessors Refuse to Serve Notice of Increased Assessments — The Eleventh Ward Applies for a General Reduction.

At the meeting of the County Commissioners on Saturday, Dr. McCandless and Mr. Barclay made an effort to procure a general reduction of the assessments in the Eleventh ward, but the Board declined to decide the application until an opportunity is afforded to matiurely consider the points raised. Such a course is manifestly in upper districts it would not be at all surprising if similar action soon be taken by representative property holders, though it is probable most of them will rest satisfied with securing a more just equalization of the assessments; the actual figures that any one piece of real estate is placed at, no difference whether it be at double the cash value, being of no moment so long as all are treated alike.

The counsel of the Assessors of Indiana, Upper St. Clair and East Deer townships refusing, as they did, to serve the notices of increased assessments made by the Commissioners, indicates the feeling prevailing throughout the country districts, and has a touch of war in it that bids fair to bring the whole matter into the courts. It is plain the rural citizens generally misapprehended the effect of increased assessments on the aggregate taxations, and no doubt to this fact is owing a great part of the hostility faction exhibited. If, however, there is as great discrepancies in the valuations of districts, and properties in the same neighborhoods, as there is in the city, then there is certainly cause for complaining against it. At the same time it must be remembered that the Commissioners are engaged in a heretofore untried labor, in which the difficulties to be surmounted are very great, and, that in order to do justice to all, they may, on occasions, seemingly give individual causes of grievance. There is no question but that they are doing the best they can under the circumstances, and it is just as patent that they can have no interest in treating every citizen in the county otherwise than equitably.

THE PENITENTIARY.

The Health of the Prison.

To the Editors of the Pittsburgh Gazette:

PITTSBURGH, March 20, 1874.

In his letter to the "Leader," with a self assuming, which is rather refreshing, Mr. T. H. Nevin lays down his propositions, as if they were axioms; and considers it beneath his dignity to prove the correctness of his assertions. I have neither the time nor inclination to enter into a controversy with the gentleman, until he shall try to contradict the majority report of the Commission by sound reasons, and not mere groundless insinuations. There is one statement, however, in this letter which seems to be supported by figures, and is apparently unanswerable. Mr. Nevin says, "The health of the *prison* is remarkable." Who doubts it? A blind man can see, that the old prison struggles hard, like an unrepentant sinner, for its useless and wasted life, and dies trembling, and with great reluctance, and we agree that it is time to stand idle in the century to come, if undisturbed." But if Mr. Nevin means to to say, and he certainly does, that the health of the people is remarkable good, will he rise and explain:

1. How many convicts, while in a dying condition, were caused to be pardoned, that they might shuffle off their mortal coil outside the penitentiary?

2. If the health of the prisoners is so remarkably good, how does it happen that the sum of $1594 24 has been expended, during the past year, for medicines and medical supplies, or that we may do with our might what our hands find to do."

Disinterested parties would thus reason, in view of these facts; the health of the prisoners was either remarkably *bad*, during the past year, or else the medical department of the Penitentiary is conducted on principles of gross extravagance. Which horn of the dilemma do you choose to take, Mr. Nevin?

QUNIUS, JR.

GRIER'S BANKRUPTCY.

The Claim of the Nation Trust Company Receiver Resisted.

On Saturday J. A. Grier, as attorney in fact of R. J. Grier, filed a petition in the United States District Court, setting forth that J. H. Bailey, Esq., Receiver of the Nation Trust Co., a private banking company, filed with Register Shafer, on February 6th, 1874, a claim for $42,328.55, an alleged indebtedness for overdrafts of customers on its books. The petition then states that R. J. Grier was a member and co-partner of said private partnership, and in said proof of claim, as filed, no name or designation of the person to whom said overpayments were made is set out, and no such specifications of the nature of such alleged indebtedness given as makes out even a prima facie liability on the part of Grier, and the truth is, many of them are checks of his as cashier of the co-partnership, and were drawn in his capacity as such and as a member of the firm. And that he is also under the articles of association and co-partnership of the firm entitled to large credits for salary, which are not allowed, and whether he is indebted or not to it will depend upon the state of the account when taken between the members of the firm. Finally the petitioner submits that there is no such person, real or artificial, as the Nation Trust Co., and that as the debt claimed in this case is not such a debt as can be proven under the bankrupt law, the court is asked to disallow it, or at least the greater part of it, or that an order may be made requiring the claimant to make due and legal proof of the claim, and that the truth and validity of the same may be inquired into by a jury.

WATER EXTENSION.

The Troubles Not Yet Ended—The Pipe Contract said to be Illegal—Opinion of George P. Hamilton, Esq.—Inferior Stone Alleged in the Highland Avenue Reservoir—Award of the Lead Contract.

The meeting of the Water Committee on Saturday night proved to be one of the most important yet held by that body. The discussion of the legality of the pipe contract with the National Foundry, which was one of the salient points in a session held a few weeks since, and which on that occasion, by resolution of the committee with authority to employ eminent legal talent, came to a head on Saturday evening and created considerable excitement.

The first business transacted was opening the bids for the supply of from thirty to fifty tons of lead, advertised for in the city and several western papers. There were only four proposals, as follows:

	Per cwt.
Beymer, Bauman & Co., Pittsburgh	$7 00
Trago & Smith, Chicago	6 85
Pittsburgh Smelting & Refining Co.	6 82½
N. Cornith, Chicago	6 75

The last named being the lowest bidder, the contract was awarded him, and the Superintendent of the Water Works directed to purchase fifty tons.

Mr. McCarthy, from the sub-committee appointed to inquire into the legality of the pipe contracts with Wm. Smith & Sons, announced that under the resolution, George P. Hamilton, Esq., had been consulted as counsel relative thereto, and the committee was ready to report. The following is the opinion in full:

MR. HAMILTON'S OPINION.

Gentlemen of the Water Commission:

In compliance with your request I have carefully inquired into and considered the question of the legality of late the water commission, and also the engagement made by it on behalf of the city with Mr. William Smith, of the 31 of January, 1873, for furnishing pipes for the water works, and beg leave to submit the following report:

The water commission having been recently abolished after a brief, but inglorious existence by repealing the ordinance creating it, the question as to its validity would have no practical significance but for its bearing on certain acts of the commission, amongst which and prominent on account of its great magnitude is the engagement referred to with Mr. Smith.

HISTORY OF THE ORDINANCE.

The history of this ordinance would indicate that from the beginning it was regarded as the exercise of a doubtful power. I find, in looking over the proceedings of Councils while it was being pending, that doubt in respect to their powers in the premises were freely and earnestly expressed by members, some of whom were legal gentlemen of no mean standing in their profession. I also learned from the same source that Councils, sympathizing with these doubts, took the opinion of the then Solicitor of the city, as to their authority to enact the ordinance. I have carefully read that opinion, and it strikes me that the fundamental error in it is assuming that the Councils are a legislative body, possessing inherent powers of legislation. In the case of the Commonwealth vs. Allen, 20 P. F. Smith 465, Chief Justice Agnew, in speaking of the difference between a Legislature and the Councils of a city, said: "The essential relations are widely different. The Councils are in no proper sense a Legislature. They do not make laws, but ordinances; nor are the members legislators, with the constitutional privileges and immunities of legislators. The Councils are mere boards of local police, their duties, their privileges and immunities solely to the law, which stands behind and above them; and their ordinances have their binding force, not as laws, but as municipal regulations only by virtue of the law which infuses them with vigor."

POWERS OF MUNICIPALITIES.

The powers of municipal corporations and the limitations on them are concisely and clearly expressed in Dillon on Municipal Corporation; vol. 1, sec. 55: "First—Those granted in express words. Second—Those necessarily or fairly implied in, or incident to the powers expressly granted. Third—Those essential to the declared objects and purposes of the corporation, not simply convenient, but indispensable. Any fair, reasonable doubt concerning the existence of the power is resolved by the courts against the corporation and the power is denied. Of every municipal corporation the charter or law under which it is created is its organic law. Neither the corporation or its officers can do any act, or make any contract, or incur any liability not authorized thereby. All acts beyond the scope of the powers granted are void."

It is also an undisputed proposition of law that the governing body of a municipal corporation has no power to make and pass ordinances or by-laws which cede away, control or embarrass their functions, or which disable them from performing their public duties." They can do nothing "which would fetter their powers of doing their duty. The reason is clear that the powers and privileges conferred upon the governing body are trusts to be exercised by it for the good of the inhabitants of the municipality. These principles are of the greatest importance, and of fundamental nature, and they required any vindication it is most abundantly furnished in the recent history of our own city. This brings up directly the consideration of the validity of the ordinances creating the Water Commission.

THE LEGALITY OF THE COMMISSION.

The corporation has undoubtedly the power to construct water works for the use of the city. It is not only granted in express terms by the act of 1867, but is involved in the general power granted to the councils to make and ordain ordinances and regulations necessary for the government and welfare of the city, and is coeval with its earliest existence. That act, therefore, so far as the power to construct water-works is concerned, confers no new or original powers, nor does it prescribe the mode in which it shall be exercised.

The existence of the power being conceded, the only question is, was the mode of execution adopted by the Councils authorized by the charter? If not, then it was nugatory and not binding on the city. The mode of operation adopted in the case was an organized body, having a president, a secretary and other officers, called a commission; but, as there is little in a name beyond the circumstance of identity, the constitution and power of the body must be looked into in order to determine its true character. The governing body of a municipality, in the nature of things, must employ subordinate agencies in the execution of their functions; but these agencies must be such as the law of its being authorizes, either by express terms, or by reasonable implication—not merely such as are convenient, but such as are necessary. Their powers are both deliberative and administrative; the former cannot be delegated—the latter may be, and most generally are, but they can only be devolved upon legally appointed officers or boards, and officers that any one piece of real estate is placed at, no difference whether it be at double the cash value, being of no moment so long as all are treated alike.

The counsel of the Assessors of Indiana, Upper St. Clair and East Deer townships refusing, as they did, to serve the notices of increased assessments made by the Commissioners, indicates the feeling prevailing throughout the country districts, and has a touch of war in it that bids fair to bring the whole matter into the courts. It is plain the rural citizens generally misapprehended the effect of increased assessments on the aggregate taxations, and no doubt to this fact is owing a great part of the hostility faction exhibited. If, however, there is as great discrepancies in the valuations of districts, and properties in the same neighborhoods, as there is in the city, then there is certainly cause for complaining against it. At the same time it must be remembered that the Commissioners are engaged in a heretofore untried labor, in which the difficulties to be surmounted are very great, and, that in order to do justice to all, they may, on occasions, seemingly give individual causes of grievance. There is no question but that they are doing the best they can under the circumstances, and it is just as patent that they can have no interest in treating every citizen in the county otherwise than equitably.

THE ALL ABSORBING TOPIC.

Rev. Mr. Leonard in the Pulpit of the Smithfield Street Methodist Church—An Able Lecture and an Immense Audience—Hundreds Turned Away—One of the Largest Temperance Gatherings Ever Brought Together in Pittsburgh.

Last evening the Smithfield street Methodist Church, (Rev. Dr. Butts') was crowded to its fullest capacity to hear Rev. Mr. A. B. Leonard lecture on temperance. No idea of the vast concourse that filled the house, can be formed by saying that the edifice was crowded. Aisles, galleries, stairways, every available space was occupied and hundreds were turned away without even getting within the entrance from off the street. As early as seven o'clock the house was full to repletion, and the organist and several members of the choir were unable to take their places on account of the jam until some time after the services commenced. As in all such cases, where crowds are large, the pickpockets found their way into it and several ladies lost their pocket books. And now, while on the subject of pickpockets, would it not be well if our very efficient (?) detectives would set about in a way to capture a few of these notorious characters, who, since the advent of numerous meetings, have been infesting this city.

The Services were opened with singing the third stanza of the first hymn, commencing, "Jesus, that name that stands our fears," after which Rev. Mr. Schafer led in prayer.

The Rev. Mr. Leonard then read a portion of the Tenth Psalm, commencing, "Why standest thou afar off, O, Lord?"

The 956th hymn was then sung, commencing, "Hasten, Lord, the glorious time," after which came

THE LECTURE.

Rev. Mr. Leonard commenced by saying he had been announced to speak on the woman's temperance movement. He believed it ought to be called God's movement. For the past thirty years men who spoke on temperance always prefaced with "of course you may expect to hear nothing new." He did not think that his speaking had attracted so great a crowd, but the excitement and interest taken in the movement had. He believed it was a movement of God's inspiration, and he had chosen women for the work. He had lifted them in such power for good as had never been known before. God is moving the hearts of the people against the greatest evil of the age. Liquor was the fruitful mother of every form of crime. If it was abolished, he believed the world would be rid of a great proportion of its crime. Physicians admit that the use of intoxicating drinks is a curse physically. It was the cause of disease and death.

WHEN EPIDEMICS RAGE,

those that drink, are the first victims. He said that during the cholera epidemic in 1837 in Cincinnati, Tuesdays always enlarged the death list, from the facts of Sunday drinking. Strong drink filled a major portion of our insane asylums. It was a curse to men financially. The dealers and manufacturers grew rich, but those who imbibe it grow poor. The purchases made at a grocer's or a dry goods' store benefit a merchant either outward or inward, but money spent in liquor is an impoverishment, and no benefit. The amount of money expended on liquor is almost beyond computation. 150,000 men go down to a drunkard's grave every year. It is no wonder then, that this movement is inspired. Who can estimate the woe and sorrow that exists from liquor? We may estimate its cost and the number of men it draws down to drunkards' graves each year, and how many men are sent to insane asylums, but the woe and misery can not be estimated.

If this great evil cannot be destroyed, then the millennium will never be complete. God has accomplished wonders in this world, and he believed this would be accomplished—the crushout of the liquor traffic. God abolished slavery in a way that men did not expect. He lived with God all things are possible, and sooner or later the curse of this world must come to an end. There had been been very little done in the past, but

HE HAD ALWAYS BEEN SUCCESSFUL.

Men have been nominated on temperance tickets, but the rum power had always come out ahead. The Legislature had always been bought by the liquor men, but temperance could not do that. The liquor interest worked without regard to scruples. A mighty moral impulse is moving the hearts of the people. He thought this was eminently a work for ladies. He argued that those who thought that woman ought not to be in the movement were only talking from their personal motives, and use their arguments as a subterfuge; that the day of doom was at hand. God had raised up the woman to do the work. If women should have had the ballot they would have voted rum out of the country long ago. But as they could not vote it out, they will pray it out. In Ohio they wanted to make it a political issue. Every saloon is a caucus den. They do not know how to contend with prayer. They cannot meet the weapon that woman use. He asked who were in favor of the movement. Nearly all the women are in favor of it. The best class, rich or poor, no denominations are known in it, and the women are almost a unit for it. A great many men are in favor of it, exceptions, who think that the law ought to be enforced. The drunkards, many of them, are for it, and they would hail the day of Reader's overthrow, and they will stand up and defend the work. All that are engaged in the traffic are opposed to it and

A FEW PROTESTANT MINISTERS

are opposed to it. The Roman Hierarchy was opposed to it and stands almost a unit against it.

The Catholic clergy have nearly all spoken against it.

He said the liquor men who had been compelled to quit the traffic in other counties by Local Option came over *en masse* to Allegheny county. The greatest opponents to the movement were foreigners. But he did not want to be understood as saying he was opposed to any nationality. This was a free country in its broadest sense, and all men are equal, no matter of their race or color. But while we wanted the foreigners, we did not want their countries here. This was America. If the movement was successful, he thought many trades would suffer, but consolidated courts would have more. So criminal lawyers would be less and doctors would not be so much needed and he thought some undertakers and many

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